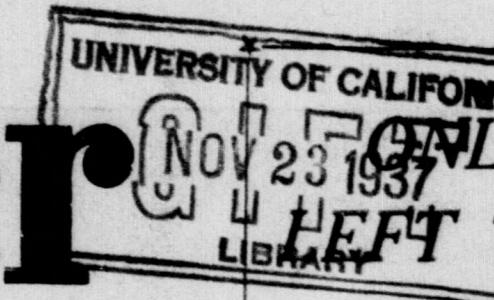


FOR A DAILY
PEOPLE'S PAPER
ON JAN. 1

Western Worker

People's Champion of Liberty, Progress and Peace



ONLY SIX WEEKS
LEFT TO RAISE YOUR
DAILY QUOTA

Vol. 6, No. 92 (Whole No. 498)

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., THURSDAY, NOV. 18, 1937.

Entered as Second Class matter April 27th, 1934 at the Post Office, at San Francisco, Calif. Under the Act of Mar. 3, 1879.

Price Five Cents

VIGILANTES ATTACK WOMAN

3RD OUTRAGE IN ONE WEEK BY THUG GANG

Workers Alliance Head's
Wife Badly Beaten
in San Bernardino

SAN BERNARDINO—Mrs. Perry Rahal, wife of the Workers' Alliance Secretary, was the victim of the third vigilante outrage in this city in one week.

Mrs. Rahal was beset by three thugs on Monday morning, knocked to the ground and badly beaten. Several hundred leaflets were destroyed by the hoodlums who also smashed crockery and furniture.

The attack on Mrs. Rahal followed two earlier incidents in which the organized band of vigilantes smashed the windows of the Workers' Alliance Hall on Friday night, and raided a Communist Party mass meeting on the previous Monday night.

Vigilantes have been given a free hand by city officials who made no effort to stop the outrages, although fully aware of the situation. Mayor C. T. Johnson was notified by the Alliance on Friday night that they had received a warning of the vigilante's intention. He took no steps to avoid the outbreak.

The vigilantes rode by in cars past the hall at 923 Third Street and hurled missiles through the windows. No police were on the scene. Later that evening they pursued two workers who escorted a woman Alliance member home after the meeting.

The present reign of terror began a week ago Monday night, when the hoodlums attacked a Communist Party mass meeting celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Soviet Union. Pat Chambers, recently released from a Criminal Syndicalism prisoner, and Jack Eagen, Los Angeles harbor organizer of the Communist Party, were slugged.

In reply to a protest from the State Committee of the Party which termed the incident "a blot on your city," Mayor Johnson baldly stated that the Constitutional rights of free speech and assembly will not be protested in San Bernardino. He said the protest was "silly." Two more "silly" outrages followed since the Mayor virtually gave the hoodlums a "go ahead" signal.

Communists Urge Vigilante Quiz

SAN FRANCISCO—A telegram urging an immediate investigation of San Bernardino vigilantism was dispatched to the Assembly Interim Committee on capital and labor by the state committee of the Communist Party last week.

"We are convinced," said the wire over the signatures of State Chairman Anita Whitney and Secretary Bill Schneiderman, "that a sinister vigilante organization is operating in San Bernardino which was responsible for breaking up a public meeting on November 8 and beating up Pat Chambers. Also responsible for last year's attack on Radio Station KFXM breaking up two Communist election campaign radio speeches. Police refused to take any steps whatsoever although recognized Le-gionnaires participated in all three incidents."

CIO Maps Fight For Labor Unity

WASHINGTON—The unity conference of three American Federation of Labor representatives and 10 Committee for Industrial Organization delegates will reconvene here Thursday, November 18, after a recess of eight days.

The CIO held a special caucus of its delegation, with Chairman John L. Lewis, during the recess in order to analyze the results of the sessions to date and to map further plans in its fight for labor unity.

NAZIS GRAB DEPOSITS
DANZIG—Deposits of Jewish business men amounting to more than \$300,000 have been confiscated by Hitler-influenced Danzig authorities. It was revealed recently.

Legionnaires Join Communists in Progressive Move

LOS ANGELES—Officers representing the Mexican Post of the American Legion in Belvedere this week approached F. Moisa, well-known Communist, and proposed that the Mexican Post and the Communist Party of Belvedere join forces in a program of community betterment.

Presenting the position of the Communist Party on such matters, Moisa said, "The Party is always willing to participate in any genuine progressive measures designed to improve conditions of working people."

Moisa agreed to speak at the next meeting of the Legionnaires, at which time plans will be worked out in line with the general program.

'NEUTRALITY' ACT BLOCKING PEACE ACTION

Britain Passes Buck to U.S. After Censure Vote Against Japan

BRUSSELS—The United States Neutrality Act emerged here as a key factor in determining whether collective action will be taken to curb aggression of Japan in China.

With only Italy voting in opposition, the conference of signatories of the Nine-Power Treaty adopted a declaration that Japan is an outlaw among peace loving nations of the world.

Twice Invited

Twice invited to the conference, Japan had turned down the invitation on both occasions.

Great Britain, followed by France, have consistently evaded any move to apply joint economic action against Japan. Accordingly, both countries declared that proposals for any such action must now come from the United States.

The conference adjourned for a week immediately following the censure vote.

Before it at the time of adjournment were the proposals of Dr. Wellington Koo, China's delegate, for sanctions against the aggressor. Dr. Koo pointed out that Japan internal economy leans heavily on its export trade, 65 per cent of which is absorbed by the United States, Great Britain, France and the Netherlands.

Denmark, Norway and Sweden, although they refused to vote affirmatively on the declaration of censure, announced that they favored it in principle.

The conference now stands committed to a vague final provision of the censure declaration which says that the democratic powers "must now consider what their common attitude will be."

Silence in Washington

At virtually the same moment that Norman Davis was casting the United States vote for the censure of Japan, the United States Congress was assembling in Washington.

Neither in the opening message of President Roosevelt nor in the action of the state department was there any mention of the possibility of repealing or amending the Neutrality Act.

Arabs Revolting Against Franco's Morocco Regime

VALENCIA—Fascist garrisons of General Francisco Franco resorted to machine gun terror to put down revolts of Arabs in Spanish Morocco, it was learned on good authority here.

In Tetuan, capital of the province held by the fascists since the start of the war, a number of demonstrators were killed as they protested the means used by the Franco command in recruiting Arabs to fight against the Loyalists in Spain. Promise of jobs had been used to herd them together, followed by forced regimentation.

The revolt was especially significant in view of Mussolini's effort to take advantage of Great

Infantile Paralysis Victims Fleeced in \$1,000,000 Racket

40 Per Cent of County Nurses Stricken Still Maimed—Incompetent Doctors Linked to Politicians in Scandal

By EMIL FREED

LOS ANGELES—There is a lot of money to be made out of epidemics if you know the right people. If you are a doctor, chances are you won't be caught at it.

Thousands of dollars minted out of the blood and twisted bones of infantile paralysis victims; old, smelly apartment houses hurriedly converted into sanitariums; an astounding high number of operations under suspicious circumstances all form segments of a jig-saw puzzle which fitted together form as vile a picture of graft and corruption as can be found in the unsavory past of Los Angeles County politics.

Parts of that jig saw were pieced together during the recent County Grand Jury investigation into the cases of 139 nurses stricken with infantile paralysis two years ago during an epidemic at the General Hospital. The Western Worker supplies the parts which were omitted and which are based on the following astounding facts:

Record of Negligence

1. When infantile paralysis swept Los Angeles in 1934, county health provisions were found to be inadequate. As a result of the use of inadequate facilities close to 300 nurses were stricken with the disease.

2. Ignoring the existence of a committee of qualified medical experts who were coping with the epidemic, the Board of Supervisors farmed out these cases to favored private doctors who in many instances lacked any qualifications for treating the patients. This was turned into a racket as every General Hospital nurse is a county employee and four dollars a day was set aside for the care of each stricken nurse. As a result of the more than \$1,000,000 in the taxpayers' money expended for the care of these victims, thousands

went into the coffers of private doctors and institutions.

3. The County Auditor's office intimidated the patients by issuing a letter which threatened them with discontinuation of their compensation if they refused to "cooperate" with the private doctors.

Girls Sterilized

4. Many totally unnecessary operations were performed upon the girls, in some instances maiming them for life. Some of the girls were sterilized.

5. The incompetence and criminal negligence of these private doctors, beneficiaries of political patronage, resulted in the following comparison:

Of the 3,000 persons, other than county employees, stricken with the disease, all but 4 or 5 per cent have been rehabilitated and are back at their former occupations. The number of county employees still on compensation and receiving medical treatment amounts to 40 per cent!

Nearly all of these are the nurses who were farmed out to private hospitals!

These are the facts and tragic aftermath of the infantile paralysis epidemic which broke in May, 1934. Poliomyelitis (the medical term for the disease) leaves its victims paralyzed and highly nervous. Under the care of orthopedists and neurologists, the disease can be controlled and the resulting paralysis avoided.

When the epidemic started, the

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

Japan Moves On Nanking

Link Capone To IA Czar

(See Editorial, Page 4, Special Article, Page 8)

HOLLYWOOD—Robert Montgomery, president of the Screen Actors' Guild, was under subpoena to testify on the attempted raid by Int'l. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees officials on his union, as the Assembly Committee on Capital and Labor continued its investigation into the IATSE's affairs.

Association of George Browne, IATSE president and AFL vice-president, with gangster Al Capone and other Chicago mobsters, was hinted by Assemblyman Jack B. Tenney last Friday in the committee's hearing.

Gangster Connections

"Wasn't President Browne associated with Tommy Malloy, business manager for the IATSE Motion Picture Operators local in Chicago?" asked Tenney of St. B. Newman, IATSE international representative.

"Yes," said Newman.

"Did that association extend beyond union work?"

"I don't know."

"Do you know whether Malloy was associated with Al Capone?" inquired Tenney.

Newman didn't know.

Assemblyman Fred Muldoon questioned Newman's statement that an "emergency" exists in the IA because its organizational drive isn't finished, although the union has 12,000 members and not enough work for them.

Anti-Strike "Reason"

Newman answered that "one thing that I know was in President Browne's mind was to put safeguards around the organization so that the membership could not strike."

Meanwhile, on the Aragon and Teruel fronts in the North, fascist artillery and infantry pounded in vain on Loyalist positions making no significant headway in the widely heralded fascist "victory offensive."

Around Madrid, government troops continued their trench to trench advance on the fascist salient extending into University City on the outskirts of Madrid. Cerro de Los Angeles, a strategic position in this salient, was held by Loyalist fighters.

Members Testify

Asked if he had ever inquired as to the disbursement of dues

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Sends Message



Raise National Income F. D. R. Tells Congress

MAKE YOUR CHOICE: RECOVERY OR RUIN!

—An Editorial—

WASHINGTON—Congress convened in extraordinary session here Monday and heard President Roosevelt ask it to pass measures increasing the income of the working population.

The problem before Congress is how to meet this decline in national income, how to stave off the impending economic catastrophe.

For weeks now the big guns of big business and its kept press have been booming:

"Give us a breathing spell. Cut our taxes. Slash unemployment relief. Leave us a free hand to keep wages low and working hours long. Don't help the farmers. Balance the budget. Let us gamble with other people's money on the stock market without any interference. This will give us encouragement and business will boom."

From the rank and file of the American people there has been little more than a pistol shot which whispered:

"Help us increase our terribly low incomes so that we can buy more and thereby open up a wider market to industrial production. Pass a wages and hours bill which will raise the pay of low income groups and increase employment through a reduction in hours. Restore jobs to those laid off WPA workers who have not been absorbed by private industry. Help the farmers to cover their cost of production. Put further checks on wild speculation in Wall Street. Tax those who are best able to pay, those to whom taxation means no real decline in purchasing power. Do that and not only will you aid that third of the nation which is ill-fed, ill-housed and ill-clothed, but you will open up a great market for industrial products and thereby help further recovery."

Since your adjournment in August," said he, "there has been a marked recession in industrial production and industrial purchases" hanging over it. This, to again use the words of President Roosevelt, "has the effect of decreasing the national income—and that is a matter of definite concern."

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THESE are the two programs before Congress.

Actually big business wants a return to the "rugged individualism" days of ex-President Hoover. They were given a free hand then and the people remember what happened. Their present policy of cutting the income of the workers and farmers cannot but have similar results. They want freedom to loot the people and the country be damned.

So great has been the pressure from Wall Street, coupled with its deliberate encouragement to the recent slump in stock prices, that a large section of Congress is ready to surrender.

On the other hand, President Roosevelt's message to Congress indicates some of the necessary measures to meet the situation. Despite the withering fire from big business, his message retains the fundamental principles enunciated in his fireside chat—principles aiming to increase income in the lowest brackets. Even the two disquieting notes in his message—those on tax revision and budget balancing—have greatly trimmed down the commitments to big business contained in Secretary Morgenthau's speech.

Just how far the Administration program will go and how thorough it will be depends upon the action of the people. So far the voice of Wall Street has submerged all else.

A recent Kiplinger Letter, private and authoritative information service for big business, reports that labor has weakened its pressure for a wages and hours bill while big business has greatly increased its pressure against it.

Such a situation is alarming!

Should it continue, the big business program will go through Congress on greased rails.

Now is the time to speak. Now is the time for every labor group, for every progressive political organization, for every association of any kind that includes workers, farmers, professionals or small business people to make themselves heard.

Let your Congressman and Senator know where you stand today. Demand the passage of a wages and hours bill, a farm aid bill. Demand a revision in the tax law to shift the tax load to where it belongs—the big monopolist corporations.

Outlines Farm Plan

Citing the increasing needs of the farm population for aid from the government, Mr. Roosevelt outlined his plan:

"We need legislation which will not only prevent new farm surpluses from causing new collapse in farm prices, but will also safeguard farmers and consumers against the hazards of crop failure. We need an all weather farm plan—a plan that uses the reasonable surpluses of a year of good weather to carry over food supplies to make up for the shortages of a year of bad weather."

Wages and Hours

His stipulations for the wage and hour legislation were two-fold. He wanted legislation relating to goods moving in or competing with interstate commerce which will accomplish two immediate purposes:

"First banish child labor and protect workers unable to protect themselves from excessively low wages and excessively long hours.

CENSUS WILL LAY BASIS OF RELIEF POLICY

Roosevelt Urges Complete Registration; Alliance Offers Assistance

A Nation-wide radio appeal of President Roosevelt Sunday night to make the unemployed census a "complete, honest and accurate" survey, served to underline similar appeals already issued by both the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization.

The significance of the poll and the importance of securing full information through it was underlined by the President's remark that it will be used as a factual basis around which to base the administration's relief policy.

General Appeal

City and state officials, as well as official and semi-official welfare bodies throughout the nation, had earlier made the same appeal.

Locals of the Workers' Alliance in California, meanwhile, volunteered to assist all those eligible to register, pointing out that failure of the eligible would inevitably become the basis for heavy cuts in relief.

Eighty-five thousand registration blanks were scheduled to be delivered by postmen to every adult in the nation Tuesday, November 16, and must be in the return mail by midnight of Saturday, November 20.

Classifications

The following are eligible to register: totally unemployed, relief clients, WPA workers, part time workers, unemployed union workers, and aged and sick who are financially dependent on charity or on other individuals.

In San Francisco the Workers' Alliance in California announced that it will give advice and assistance during the five days of registration, November 16 to November 20, at the following headquarters: 717 Market Street, Room 509; 1359 Fillmore Street; 370 Valencia Street; 364 Third Street, and 33 McAllister Street, room 416.

Sprout Possible G.O.P. Candidate For Governorship

OAKLAND — The Western Worker has it on excellent authority that high Liberty League-Republican Party committees are considering President Robert Gordon Sprout of the University of California as a possible GOP presidential candidate in 1940.

Sprout has just been named head of the Republican New Policies Committee of California. His reputation as a liberal combined with his "safe and sound" political and economic views make him an ideal candidate of a "rejuvenated" Republican Party, backers think.

The university administration, which Sprout dominates, has blocked abolition of compulsory ROTC for years despite overwhelming student opposition to the military exercises.

San Francisco Unionist Dies In Spanish Fight

SAN FRANCISCO — News of the death of Ben Smith, member of the ILWU, has been received at the local headquarters of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. His address here was 214 Fourth Street.

Smith was killed during the offensive against Fuentes, during the Saragossa campaign, on or about October 13. His friends and relatives are requested to communicate with the Friends of the Lincoln Brigade at 321 Market Street, Room 224, phone EX. 8786.

No Sign of Peace in L.A. Parade on Armistice Day

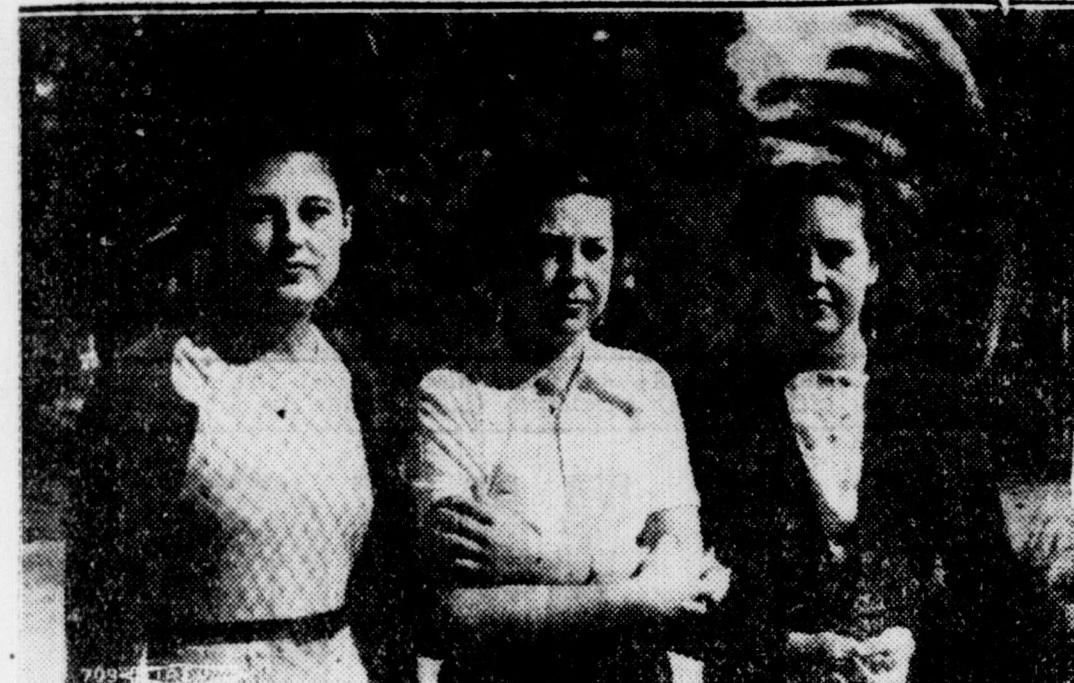
LOS ANGELES — Riding aloft a swirling color-go-round of serpentine, confetti, banners and uniform, the "Stars and Stripes" took full possession of Broadway last Thursday when close to 10,000 persons marched in the annual Armistice Day parade.

The parade, dedicated to Peace, was staged against the contradictory background of swords and rifles, army bands and military garb. Among the many reminders of war, tokens of peace became conspicuous by their absence.

By far, the largest part of the parade was made up of Legionnaires with their hats tilted sideways on their heads. Each post had its own vividly colored banners and emblems. Some were dressed in rich uniforms; some in well-cut business suits; most of them in clothes of old and nondescript origin.

High school youths in the ROTC ranked second in number to Legionnaires. Marching in the parade, following the orders of their "officers" who had already learned the

Loyalist Prisoners



PLUMP AND healthy, well-cared-for and even a bit saucy, the three daughters of the Marquis of Larios, two of them captured by Spanish government troops in a Fascist military hospital at Brunete, belie press propaganda of reactionary U.S. publishers that the Loyalists cast members of the aristocracy into dark dungeons to die. Left to right: Maria Isabel, Margarita, wife of Miguel Primo de Rivera, son of the former dictator, and Maria Luisa. The government is willing to exchange them for republican prisoners. Unlike the Loyalists, Franco has carried out wholesale executions.

Progressive Party Names Candidates

FRESNO — Raymond L. Haight, candidate of the Progressive and Commonwealth parties for governor in 1934, was endorsed for office by the California Progressive Commonwealth Federation at its state-wide conference here Sunday. Assemblyman Ellis E. Patterson of King City was endorsed for the lieutenant governorship.

By its endorsements of individuals, the federation veered away from the policy advocated by the California Committee for Political Unity, which urged all progressive forces in the state to seek unity now on political programs and defer discussion of individual candidates.

Assemblyman Patterson is himself one of the sponsors of this position, as are a number of other assemblymen and congressmen which the CIO is determined to unionize.

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CIO Will Save Democracy in U.S.—BITTNER

Steel Workers Organizer Calls for Unionization of Unorganized

OAKLAND—"The CIO will not only save the workers, but will save American democracy as well," declared Van A. Bittner, Steel Workers Organizing Committee leader, before the Alameda County Industrial Union Council last Monday.

"The organization of the unorganized is helping not only the men and women in the unions and their dependents, but all other workers also," he said.

Bittner told the council that the CIO had organized more mass production workers during the past 16 months than the AFL had during more than 50 years of existence.

Organizing Unorganized

Referring to the Washington conference between the CIO and AFL, Bittner stated the CIO is offering the Federation a chance to help organize the millions of men and women in industry, whom the CIO is determined to unionize.

"But it is not our purpose to destroy a single legitimate union affiliated with the AFL," he said. "The CIO is primarily interested in organizing the unorganized. We are for industrial unions in the mass production industries, because that is the type the workers want and the kind they must have to have any kind of union at all."

Easy to Beat Beck

Touching briefly on the recent Teamster officials' embargo fiasco against the longshoremen and warehousemen, Bittner stated:

"Dave Beck is nothing compared to the millions of workers in the CIO. The longshoremen and warehousemen showed how easy it is to defeat Beck when they are determined to. They will not rest until not only Beck but all the racketeers are kicked out of the labor movement."

No Discrimination

The CIO makes no distinction of race, creed or color, said Bittner, citing the 110,000 Negroes in his own union, the United Mine Workers, as proof.

"The Mexican who came to California last week and joined the union industry is a better American and Californian than the native son who works in industry and doesn't join the union," he said.

Initial Action

Initial action was made possible by donations of \$250 already contributed by component unions and other groups affiliated. Bakery Wagon Drivers, Alaska Fishermen and Marine Firemen were leading contributors. The executive board of the Longshoremen ILWU 1-10, recommended a \$100 contribution from that body.

While contacting merchants and building an active boycott sentiment among consumers gets under way, the Conference delayed formation of the picketing committee that it believes will be necessary to bring into line stores now heavily laden with Japanese goods purchased since the invasion of China began.

Patrick is scheduled to appear before Municipal Judge Benjamin Scheinman for sentence November 19. Last October 23, turning into the driveway of his own home, his car was struck by another driven by Policeman Charles Brody, himself under the influence of liquor. Four witnesses testified that Brody long known for his terroristic treatment of Negroes on the Southside, demanded that Patrick pay him \$5 to repair the car "or go to jail."

Patrick refused. Brody hit him over the arm with handcuffs, struck him in the face and jailed him.

Ruling Shows Need To Curb Court

Montgomery to Testify on Raid Attempt on Actors

(Continued from Page 1)

and assessments, Hentschel replied:

"Yes, and I have been told: 'We don't know anything about it. Mr. Browne is handling this.'

Shaw testified that late in 1935, IA international officers and producers met in conference in New York and signed a closed shop contract.

"At that time," stated Shaw, "we were forced, on notice from the studios, to drop our cards in Electrical Workers Local 40, and join the IATSE."

Fire on "Union Orders"

Shaw, Hentschel and Chester Cohea have two law suits pending which seek to have Superior Courts force the IATSE officials to call meetings, have elections of officers and account for funds. Hentschel said five days after the suit was filed, he was fired from a studio. Shaw said he was fired from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for similar reasons.

Francis Harrison Black, employed by Warner Bros. for six years, said he was fired three days after insisting to union officials that a receipt for his 2 per cent assessment be marked "paid under protest," and that a studio official, Joe Gilpin, told him he was fired on "union orders."

Shaw testified the average day's work per member has been brought down to approximately three hours.

San Francisco

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20,000 Washington Aged Demand \$60 a Month Aid

Pension Union Convention Maps Legislative Program to Enforce Law; National Organization Predicted.

SEATTLE—Washington's old people, having created a fighting Pension Union of 2,000 members, predicted the spread of the organization throughout the nation as their first state convention adjourned here.

The two-day convention of nearly 700 delegates from 150

locals formulated a legislative campaign to force adequate old age pension laws and their administration in the state. It decided on a campaign to secure the full enforcement of existing state pension laws now being fought for by Governor Clarence D. Martin of Washington and demanded legislation increasing the standard of living for the aged.

In sharp contrast to the policies of the former Townsend movement, the new Union adopted a constitution calling for complete rank and file control and local autonomy. State officers were elected.

Legislative Program

Recommendations of the legislative committee set up by the convention called for:

1. Age limit of 60 years, pension \$60 monthly.

2. Pension administrators to consist of county commissioners and an equal number of Pension Union members.

3. State pension board to consist of superintendent of education, state treasurer and lieutenant governor.

4. Applicant to be granted pension within five days after stating his age and resources before a notary public.

5. Two years residence in the state out of the preceding five to be a requisite of eligibility.

6. Legislation to be drafted by the committee for submission to the next convention.

Support King-Ramsay-Conner

The convention adopted a strong resolution demanding freedom of the California "ship murderer" frame-up victims, Earl King, E. G. Ramsay and Frank Conner, Mrs. Cora King, addressed the convention with an appeal for her brother and his fellow victims, receiving a cheer when she cried, "But I would rather see him where he is than to have him sell out to the interests that convicted him!"

Women Shoppers Form

Anti-Communist Pact Screens Aim to Grab Colonies

SOVIET PAPER BARES SECRET IMPLICATIONS

Rome-Berlin-Tokio Axis Is
Direct Menace to
America

MOSCOW — Behind the smoke screen of the anti-Communist slogans of the Rome-Berlin-Tokio pact is a military alliance aimed particularly against Britain and France.

The formation of the war bloc of the three fascist powers is due primarily to the tolerance of the previous crimes of the fascist lands by Western democracies, stated the Soviet newspaper *Pravda* last week.

"It is no secret for anyone," *Pravda* writes, "that the reference to the Communist International (against which the pact is purportedly directed) is only a fig leaf masking the real content of the Italian-German-Japanese agreement."

REDIVISION OF WORLD

"Now it is clear to all that the question at issue is the creation of a bloc of aggressors with the aim of bringing about a new partition of the world."

"It is sufficient to glance at the map to understand that the entrance of Italy into the Berlin-Tokio pact 'against the Comintern' is directed above all at Britain and France.

"Insofar as the Italian-German-Japanese agreement is also directed against the Soviet Union, the USSR will of course draw its conclusions from the fact of agreement of the fascist war incendiaries."

"Hostile policy toward the Soviet Union will not go unpunished. At the time the German-Japanese agreement of 1936 was being signed, the Soviet Government, as is known, refused to conclude with Japan a fishing pact of importance to Japan, negotiations on which were nearing completion."

FASCISM NOT INVINCIBLE

"The aggressive bloc of Italian and German fascists and the Japanese military circles by no means represents any invincible force, as the fascist dictators are trying to create the impression."

"The indecisiveness and shortsightedness of the bourgeois democratic powers in tolerating fascist aggression is the main source of the brazenness of the aggressors, who count on their crimes not meeting any serious resistance in the future, too."

"The sooner the necessity of collective defense of peace is realized by the ruling circles of the bourgeois democratic countries, and primarily England, France and America, the easier will it be to put an end to the aggressive actions of the fascist powers which are preparing a new world slaughter."

Japan Faces Production Difficulties

TOKIO—Japan today faces the most critical internal situation since the empire's foundation, according to a comprehensive article on the economic aspects of the Sino-Japanese war in the Oriental Economist, English-language monthly published in this city.

Admitting that Japan's productive power is now being employed to the maximum extent, the authors declare the necessity of even more exploitation of Japan's oppressed people.

SPEED-UP DEMANDED

"To attain the goal," maintains the article, "the nation's labor must be stretched to twelve hours a day, to fourteen hours and even to fifteen hours. The speed of machinery must be accelerated to the highest point consistent with safety of operation and wherever possible operation must be placed on a basis of day and night shifts."

Only by such methods of speed-up can enough munitions, machinery and goods of consumption be produced to carry on Japan's invasion of China.

Advocating an increased burden on Japan's middle class, the article urges increasing taxes so that the present tax revenue of 1,400,000,000 yen (\$420,000,000) for the 1937 fiscal year could be boosted up to at least 2,500,000,000 (\$750,000,000). Such figures, though lower than the budgets of the United States, represent a tremendous burden on the sixty million inhabitants of the Japanese Islands.

SOVIET GRAIN

MOSCOW—The sale of grain by collective farms through consumers' cooperatives to date has amounted to 2,592,000 tons for this year as compared to 1,280,000 for last.

San Francisco

I Can Never Rest Until War And Fascism Are Stamped Out

By Noel Whitecomb
I have just returned from battle-scarred Spain, where for nearly seven months I had the honor of serving with the Spanish People's Army in its heroic fight against the fascist invaders. I am glad that I came back alive and able to continue the fight here.

The strain of those few months of war was terrific. The constant rattle of machine guns, the crack of rifles, the roar of artillery, the sinister snarl of airplanes suddenly appearing from nowhere and dropping tons of bombs—these things have left their mark on me. And so has the horrible sight of men and women and children dying, their bodies riddled with bullets or ripped to bits by shrapnel.

Fascism in Action

I can say that I have seen war, that I have seen fascism in action, and that I hate both war and fascism.

Hate them as I have never hated anything before, with a cold, unceasing fury inside of me and a feeling that I cannot rest until war and fascism are stamped out forever and civilization is really achieved.

In the little village of Blasquez, on the Cordoba front, I saw evidence of the civilization that General Franco would like to bring to the rest of Spain.

Blasquez was situated three kilometers behind our lines, a small cluster of adobe houses in which only women and children and old men lived. No troops were barracked there, no artillery, not even an anti-aircraft gun.

One day a fleet of fascist planes flew over. When they left, Blasquez was a heap of smouldering ruins, and nearly every inhabitant of the village was dead. From beneath the piles of bricks and dirt which had once been the tiny homes of peasants we were able to drag only seven live persons. All of these were wounded.

Death From the Air

I have seen hospitals destroyed by aerial bombardments, and schools and churches wrecked by fascist shells. I have been in Madrid when it was shelled and bombed by airplanes. I have seen long lines of women and children machine-gunned by fascist planes while waiting in front of stores for their day's allowance of food.

One moment the scene would be quiet, the soft voices of the women mingling with the happy cries of little children playing in the street with no thought of impending death—the next moment, a street ploughed up, buildings falling, and everywhere the bodies of those same women and children.

An Ambulance Driver

I was attached as an ambulance driver to the 13th Brigade Mixta, a mixed brigade composed of two battalions of Spanish, one German battalion, a French Battalion, and a battalion made up of volunteers from the Balkans. The 13th Brigade had been one of the original defenders of Madrid, and had already seen service on three fronts when I joined it in Cordoba.

Known as a fighting, fearless brigade, the 13th was used as shock troops wherever these were necessary to make a lightning attack or stem the enemy's advance, and in the Pozoblanco sector while I was with it the brigade made one advance of over 80 kilometers.

When it was decided to relieve the pressure on Madrid with a pincer movement in the Brunete sector, the 13th Brigade was moved there, and without a single day's rest went into action at Villanueva de la Canada early in July. Twenty days later the brigade was almost completely wiped out.

After capturing the eight towns in the valley where the first action took place, our salient swung to the left and advanced across a small river, the fascists retreating before us. The result was a sharp-pointed wedge thrust into the enemy's lines, with the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Brigades at the point of the wedge. Raked incessantly from three sides by machine gun and rifle fire, shelled for days, and bombed both night and day by fascist aviation, our troops at the foot of a low hill dominated by the enemy, and wait for reinforcements and supplies.

Brave Men Fall

It was a very bad position. We were finally compelled to dig in. One by one the brave men of the Thirteenth fell. Ambulances were kept on the job day and night. There was no sleep for

Home Again



NOEL WHITCOMB

out food or water and with only snatches of sleep for twenty days and nights, until finally their reinforcements came up and the brigade was relieved.

Out of more than 3,000 men who made up the 13th Brigade, at the end of those twenty days of the most intense fighting ever to take place in any war, less than 100 men were able to stand up and muster.

A Glorious Fight

Today the Spanish People's Army is fighting a glorious fight. It is well trained, well organized, and is a mobile army equal to any in Europe. Much credit for the reorganization of the army is due the International Brigades. Morale is high everywhere in Loyalist Spain, and the Negrin government has the confidence and wholehearted support of both army and the civilian population.

But Spain cannot win the war alone. She must have the help of liberals in every country. She needs airplanes, big guns, food.

The Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade are doing great work in sending cigarettes, soap, etc., to the Americans in Spain.

Some of the boys are coming back now, and they are being rehabilitated through the efforts of Friends, who provide them with clothing, help them get jobs and take care of them until they can find work.

Proud of the "Friends"

For the boys who have been seriously wounded, the Friends provide hospitalization and find homes where they may stay until their health is regained.

I know every American in Spain is proud of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and all the people here in America who are doing so much for them.

NAZI ACTIONS IN AUSTRIA GROW BOLDER

Government Tolerance Encourages Illegal Organization

VIENNA—Government tolerance of the illegal Nazi movement in Austria allowed no reprisals after an attempted street demonstration last week before a gigantic portrait of Adolf Hitler exhibited by the official German travel bureau of this city.

On the other hand severe sentences of from five to seven years imprisonment were given at the recent Leoben trials of twenty-two Communists accused of attempting to collect illegal dues and circulate Communist broad sheets. Such actions against the Left are not unusual.

PRO-HITLER AGITATION

The supposedly illegal Nazi newspaper, *Oesterreichische Beobachter*, continues to circulate with impunity and to grow steadily more violent. In the latest numbers, Chancellor Kurt Schuschnigg is declared to be isolated and surrounded by traitors in his Cabinet who conspire behind his back.

It is asserted that under the Austro-German agreement of 1936 Austria's responsibility to Germany is no longer the affair of Austria alone—and far less that of the alien regime now controlling Austria—implying that it is now Germany's business.

In private conversations, according to a N. Y. Times correspondent, the Nazis express their conviction that Italy so deeply needs German backing, especially in Spain, that she has "given" Austria's independence to Germany and is ready to tolerate German support of any blow struck by the Nazis of Austria—or for that matter, by those of Czechoslovakia or Hungary.

CZECH ACTIONS

Nazi penetration into Czechoslovakia is finding its chief successes among the three million impoverished Germans in the Sudeten-German territory of this nation. Under the leadership of Konrad Henlein, a direct agent of Hitler, many Germans living near the frontier have been organized into the fascist Sudeten German Party (SGP).

At the same time, despite the propaganda of the nearby Leipzig radio station and the German News Bureau which dominates the columns of the bourgeois provincial press, considerable anti-Hitler organization has been achieved.

The main problem for the country, according to leaders of the Communist Party of Austria, is to weld into one from the powerful reserves of resistance to Hitler: Communists, Socialists, Catholic trade unionists, members of the huge peasant Catholic People's League and the radical intellectuals.

SAN FRANCISCO

Solon Hits Japan Fishing Invasion

SAN FRANCISCO—Senator Lewis B. Schwellenbach, in a radio broadcast from Seattle this week, declared he will confer with the U. S. State Department during the forthcoming special session of congress regarding Japanese invasion of Alaska fishing waters.

He said Japanese fishing operations may throw 40,000 men out of work. The Alaska Fishermen's Union, backed by other maritime organizations, has threatened to picket all Japanese ships unless the State Department takes prompt action to settle the controversy.

Soviet Envoy Gets Friendship Book

NEW YORK—The clamor for an international fight against Communism "may be a smoke screen for attacks against other parts of the globe," Alexander Troyanovsky, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, said in an address at Carnegie Hall.

Mr. Troyanovsky spoke at a ceremony arranged by a committee, of which Corliss Lamont was chairman, to present to him a "Golden Book of American Friendship With the Soviet Union," a volume signed by 100,000 Americans in various parts of the country.

Renewing the pledge Mr. Troyanovsky said had been given at many diplomatic conferences and in many negotiations, the Soviet Ambassador again declared his nation was "ready to cooperate with all peace-loving countries to maintain peace and to join our efforts in the struggle against any aggressor."

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MANY DESERT FROM AFRICA ITALIAN ARMY

Mussolini's Ethiopian Plans Stumped for Finances

LONDON—Discontent among the Italian military forces and extreme financial difficulties in Ethiopia are again emphasized in a dispatch from Jibuti, French Somaliland to the London Times.

Indicating the discontent among the Italian military forces, the dispatch states:

"Deserters frequently surrender at the French Somaliland frontier. About a fortnight ago a group of ten soldiers gave themselves up to the French authorities, giving as excuses the terrible hardships they had to suffer and harsh treatment by their superiors."

It is said that three new regiments of Italian troops are due in November; numbers of the troops which took part in the Ethiopian war are now in Spain. These troops did not volunteer for the Spanish campaign, but were ordered there."

FAILING IMPORTS

Outlining the economic hardships in the newly conquered territory, the dispatch brings attention to the scarcity of gasoline and other imported raw materials, explaining:

"Many new regulations affect imports and exports. There is a general cessation of imports to Ethiopia because considerable sums of money have long been outstanding to suppliers."

Meanwhile the struggle for national liberation is consistently carried on by the unconquerable natives. Reports of night attacks on Italian truck convoys are common. The road from Aicha to Diredawa is not considered safe at night, and movement outside the limits of Addis Ababa is restricted to within a few miles.

Soviet Aviation

Remaining aloft for 130 hours 27 minutes, the USSR V-6 dirigible broke all records for duration of flight when it landed at the Moscow dirigible port. The dirigible thus eclipsed the 119-hour record established in 1933 by the Graf Zeppelin, which is nearly five times the capacity of the Soviet airship.

The Ant-25 plane in which heroes of the Soviet Union Gromov, Yumashev and Danilin made their record non-stop flight from Moscow to California last month is back in Moscow. Brought to Leningrad from the United States by boat, the plane was at the Central Aerodrome in the Soviet capital last week by

A number of anti-aircraft defense units will be held in Moscow districts shortly, and an attack will be staged to test the city's means of aircraft defense and its preparedness to defend itself.

Exact what happened is obscured by the iron censorship clamped down in Trujillo by the frankishness of the Caribbean butcher and the reluctance of the Haitian government to reveal the facts in dread of reprisals from the Haitian "fuehrer."

Behind the barbarity of Trujillo are these facts: The Dominican Republic, with 147,800 people occupies 19,332 square miles of the greater portion of the island while Haiti and its 2,700,000 people are squeezed into 10,204 square miles. For scores of years, Haitians have crossed the ill-defined northwest border to eke out a livelihood on unoccupied land just across the Massacre River in the Dominican Republic.

A number of anti-aircraft defense units will be held in Moscow districts shortly, and an attack will be staged to test the city's means of aircraft defense and its preparedness to defend itself.

HOLY LAND COURTS

JERUSALEM—Establishment of military courts was decreed by the British Palestine government for summary trial of persons arrested in connection with terrorist activities in the Holy Land.

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Telephone HEMLOCK 2684

Los Angeles Office: Rm. 416, 224 So. Spring St.

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Unity of Seamen Against Unity of Shipowners

SAILORS' UNION of the Pacific members are to ballot on a referendum to determine affiliation—to the Committee for Industrial Organization, American Federation of Labor, or independent. Once before, only last summer, the Sailors voted on affiliation and went overwhelmingly in favor of joining the CIO, only to have their votes invalidated by Secretary Harry Lundeberg's hand-picked "ballot burners."

Last summer the issue was unity—unity of all American seamen, as part of the main progressive stream of labor, the CIO. In the present referendum, the issue is still unity. But while a handful of officials were disrupting unity on the Pacific Coast, the shipowners and their open-shop allies were gathering their forces for a new attack on the maritime unions throughout the U. S.

The attack has come; it is embodied in the report of the U. S. Maritime Commission seeking legislation in the current special session of Congress to hog-tie the unions with compulsory arbitration, modelled along the lines of the anti-strike Railway Labor Act. (See Page 8 for expose on this act.) The next step planned by the shipowners is the crushing of the unions, the return of the blue book days, the shape-up, the fink hall, the pier-head jumps.

Obviously an independent union, such as Lundeberg suggests, would weaken the fight against the powerful united front of the shipowners and the Wall Street backers, would assist them in fettering compulsory arbitration on the maritime workers, would give them aid and comfort in their "mutiny" make-up against 17 members of the S. S. Alcide crew.

If any lingering doubts existed as to the advisability of affiliating with the AFL, the SUP membership should have them wiped out with the statement by William Green, Joseph P. Ryan, Paul Scharrenberg and other AFL "leaders" that they favor the legislation proposed by the Maritime Commission.

Only the CIO has come forward with a militant program in support of the seamen. At its recent Atlantic City conference, it went on record demanding that the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation desist from applying the Marine Disaster Law against unions, and demanding that the Secretary of Commerce immediately nullify all investigations and prosecutions of seamen conducted up to the present time under this act.

Only the CIO has offered its services to help bring about national unity of the seamen and a National Maritime Federation.

Now, more than ever before, the seamen need national unity on all Coasts, and need a National Maritime Federation linked with this most powerful, most militant section of U. S. labor, the CIO.

Rank and file sailors should vote for unity, for defense of unionism, for defeat of the shipowners, in their referendum ballot by voting for affiliation to the CIO.

Hollywood's Page Boy— A Pal of Al Capone

BEFORE he took up his residence on Alcatraz Island, Al Capone made an offer to Big Business to "save the country from Communism." The offer was not taken up, at least for the time being, but the interests that control the motion picture industry are making good use of some of his ex-pals from Chicago to "save Hollywood from the unions."

George Browne, president of the Int'l. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and his associate czars in this "union," are well known by the underworld of Chicago and are just as well known, and bitterly, by the studio workers in Hollywood who have had to pay tribute to this racketeer.

The State Assembly Interim Committee on Capital and Labor has started an investigation of the affairs of this "union," which is run on orders from Browne and Browne alone, which has no elected officers, which has no meetings, whose members have no right to vote on any issues. Prompted by the strike called against Columbia studios by Browne in a jurisdictional thrust against the Screen Actors Guild, the investigation has only barely gotten under way, but has already unearthed some interesting "dirt" on this organization.

Browne has declared he will take jurisdiction over all studio workers, from stars to janitors, a plan quickly branded as a "million dollar company union scheme." Everyone in Hollywood knows Browne is stooging for the studios to defeat real unionism in the industry; to crush the already-organized bona fide unions.

This investigation must go on!

Rank and file studio workers and studio unions point to the about-face of the L. A. Times, which at first hailed the probe as an attack on all unions and then (apparently getting a tip from the producers) attacked the Assembly committee as trying to "pick on" Hollywood, as evidence that moves are being made to squash the investigation. The rank and file prepared to use all possible pressure to see that the committee carries through the job to completion, and exposes the company-union machine of George Browne.

Certain reactionary Republican members of the Assembly Committee are believed ready to cooperate to stifle the inquiry. Let the committee know that the probe must go on, via wires and letters, care of State Bldg., Los Angeles.

Lawlessness Championed By San Bernardino Mayor

A CONSPIRACY for violent, lawless attacks on individuals, on workers' meetings and on the property of workers is going on in San Bernardino. The mayor of San Bernardino is a party to it, directly countenancing lawlessness by open statement and by refusal to act.

This is not a matter that can be let pass. Incident after incident proves that not only is there lawless conspiracy, but that it is growing bolder. An investigation by the Assembly Interim Committee is an imperative necessity as demanded by the State Committee of the Communist Party.

The present series of violent acts started November 8, when vigilantes attacked an orderly and peaceful meeting, injuring some 20 people, including Jack Eggen, one of the speakers, who suffered several broken teeth and bad cuts on the head. Police came, did nothing and left at the same time the vigilantes did.

Yet Mayor C. T. Johnson said that the Communist Party's complaint was "silly." He said that "When the disturbance was brought to their attention, police responded immediately." He is a liar if he implies by this that they upheld the law. They saw the law-breakers. They did nothing and he upheld them.

This was not the first attack upon the Communist Party. Known and recognized Legionnaires participated in the attack at Radio Station KFXM during the 1936 election campaign when Communists were denied the right to speak.

Emboldened by legal protection the vigilantes have already turned their attack against the Workers' Alliance. On the night of November 12 they threw missiles through the door and windows of the Alliance hall while a meeting was in progress. Police were indifferent. Mayor Johnson was notified in person that vigilantes were definitely planning a raid on the Workers' Bookshop. He promised police protection, but did nothing and has thus issued an open invitation for more violence.

Elementary democracy is at stake. The spearhead of this attack was naturally directed against the Communist Party. It has already gone further and will continue unless halted by the action of the citizens.

A flood of protest must reach the mayor of San Bernardino, demanding arrest and prosecution of those who attacked the meetings, and demanding police protection for the Workers' Bookshop which is now threatened.

More telegrams and letters should reach the Assembly Interim Committee, address, State Building, Los Angeles, demanding a complete investigation of vigilante activities up to the present time under this act.

Only the CIO has offered its services to help bring about national unity of the seamen and a National Maritime Federation.

Now, more than ever before, the seamen need national unity on all Coasts, and need a National Maritime Federation linked with this most powerful, most militant section of U. S. labor, the CIO.

Rank and file sailors should vote for unity, for defense of unionism, for defeat of the shipowners, in their referendum ballot by voting for affiliation to the CIO.

An Encircling Movement of Fascism Against America

THROUGH Latin America, the rampant

fascist powers have taken a new step to hem in the United States with their system of war and dictatorship.

The fascist coup in Brazil was an early and

direct outcome of the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis after its promulgation of the notorious "Anti-Communist Pact."

Months earlier, General Secretary Earl Browder of the Communist Party warned that the Latin American countries are the back door through which the fascists fervently hope to surround this country. The action in Brazil confirms that warning completely and confirms also the warning of the Soviet press that the "anti-Communist Pact" threatens democracy directly. Invariably, the unwillingness of the governments of democratic capitalist countries to take any collective action against fascism results in its spread—not to the Soviet Union where a powerful Red Army stands guard, but to the colonies, semi-colonies and weaker countries where disunity of democratic forces gives it a foothold.

The events in Brazil will be welcomed by

Wall Street because Brazil will now furnish a

foothold for fascist bombardment of every

democratic nation in North and South America.

Secretary Hull and President Roosevelt both emphasized at the Pan-American Conference that the best safeguard of world peace is Democracy.

Reaction counts on the Brazil coup not

only to strengthen its exploitation of the

Brazilian people, but to aid here in defying the

will of the overwhelming majority of the

American people. Instead the Rome-Berlin-

Tokyo danger, now closer to the homes of

America than ever before, must serve to

speed the unity of democratic forces here.

If the statements of Roosevelt and Hull

are to have any meaning, the need is more

urgent than ever for a course realizing in

practice the principle of collective action of

the democratic countries against fascism.

Browne has declared he will take jur-

isdiction over all studio workers, from stars

to janitors, a plan quickly branded as a

"million dollar company union scheme."

Everyone in Hollywood knows Browne is

stooging for the studios to defeat real union-

ism in the industry; to crush the already-organized bona fide unions.

THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNISTS IN UNIFYING THE MEXICAN PEOPLE

By Harry Gannes

Will Mexico be another Spain on the American Continent?

That question was seriously evoked by Herman Laborde, general secretary of the Communist Party of Mexico, in a highly informative and comprehensive interview of the present political situation in the country below the Rio Grande.

The last time I interviewed

denas and working class leaders. Lombardo Toledano, president of the Mexican Confederation of Labor, and myself were threatened with assassination.

Fascist Press

"There are such newspapers engaged in this campaign as Excelsior, which has connections with foreign imperialism, and the Catholic weeklies, Omega and Hombre Libre. Besides there

has established collectivization of land besides establishing collective ownership.

Grants Credit

Cardenas has granted credit and the machinery to the Ejidos, the collectively-owned farms. He is really destroying the grip of the big property owners. In Yucatan, along with the transfer of the huge henquen (sisal hemp) estates, he has turned over to the peasants the machinery, buildings, railroads and other equipment necessary for the growing and transportation of henquen. The huge farms are owned and run on a collective basis. This is agrarian reform to an extent never before known in Mexico.

A move that has not endeared him to the American backers of reaction and fascism has been the strenuous struggle against imperialism carried forward by President Cardenas. He has nationalized railroads, taking them out of the grasp of the Wall Street bondholders. He is moving for control of the Mexican people over the oil fields, electric plants, and industries.

And yet Laborde had only begun to detail the barest outline of the progressive accomplishments of President Cardenas, which is the butt of the reactionary plot for an armed uprising.

Foreign Policy

"You know President Cardenas stand for the open support of the Spanish people against all of the fascists," emphasized Laborde. "The foreign policy of the Mexican government under Cardenas is anti-fascist and against intervention of the big powers. Besides supporting the Spanish people, Cardenas has come out whole-heartedly behind the Chinese in their magnificent and inspiring resistance to the Japanese aggressors.

"How is the People's Front in Mexico faring?" I asked Laborde.

People's Front

"The People's Front movement in our country has its own characteristics," was the answer. "There is one big party which is in power, the Partido Nacional Revolucionario, the P.N.R. In itself it is the embryo of a People's Front. It is made up of a number of different organizations. Backing the government of the P.N.R. already is the C.T.M. (Mexican Confederation of Labor) and the Communist Party, as well as the peasant organizations.

"Up to the present, the P.N.R. was not very active in the formation of a People's Front. Reaction was scattered. Cardenas, leader of the P.N.R., had the endorsement and support of all progressive and revolutionary political forces.

Spy Network

"Some of the arms come from the United States," replied Laborde. "A good deal of it is shipped from Nazi Germany to Guatemala. Dictator Ubico of Guatemala cooperates with the fascist cabal."

Changed Situation

"Now the situation is changing. Reaction is getting bolder. It is necessary to speed the creation of a People's Front. But that can best be done through and within the P.N.R. Recently some substantial steps were taken towards this end. In the last election, the C.T.M. and the Peasant Confederation cooperated with the P.N.R. in electing candidates to parliament.

"In the Mexican House of Representatives, a committee for the struggle against fascism has been organized. In the Senate, a committee to make contact with the people and to present their legislative demands has been formed.

"All of these movements point to the maturing of a People's Front. At the next Congress of the P.N.R., to be held some time in 1938, no doubt the proposal will be made for the P.N.R. taking the initiative in forming within itself the People's Front.

U.S. Base

Laborde then told me about some of the connections that the fascists have been able to establish with certain officials in the Mexican foreign ministry. The leading fascist contact in this branch of the Mexican government is Reyes Spindola, who comes from the family of the former Mexican dictator, Porfirio Diaz. Besides Senor Spindola is married to an Italian woman closely connected with the Italian embassy in Mexico City.

One of the new stunts of the Mexican fascists is to try to establish a base for themselves in the South in the United States. Their agents are working to win allies among the Lynch-incident Southern landlords against the Cardenas government and against the democratic forces in the United States.

Land Reforms

The progressive nature of Cardenas' policy especially as it has developed in recent months is startling even to one who saw its great achievements at first hand in Mexico. Cardenas, Laborde related, not only has given the Mexican peasants more land, since he first came to office in 1934, than was granted by all the presidents combined since 1917, but he has extended his program to turning over of land held by foreign imperialists to the Mexican people.

Cardenas follows a definite national revolutionary policy," declared Laborde. "He is engaging in agrarian reform and in anti-imperialist measures of the widest consequences. Cardenas is granting land to peasants who heretofore were outside of the scope of the agrarian laws. He

As We See It

By BILL SCHNEIDERMAN
Calif. State Secretary, Communist Party

Maritime Labor Forging National Unity

THE PRESSING need for unity on a national scale among the maritime unions, particularly among the seamen, was never more clear than now when the shipowners through the Maritime Commission are trying to fasten an anti-labor, anti-strike measure on the workers, modeled on the arbitration features of the Railways Labor Act.

The CIO has become a decisive factor in bringing about the national unity of the seamen and of all maritime workers. The CIO, which fought the anti-labor Copeland Bill while the AFL leaders supported it, is now again coming to the fore in the fight against the Maritime Commission's attacks on the seamen, and again the AFL leaders are fulfilling their reactionary role by defending the Maritime Commission's proposals.

All this is giving a powerful impetus to the winning of the seamen's unions to the CIO. The National Maritime Union, with over 50,000 seamen on the Atlantic and Gulf and Great Lakes, is affiliated to the CIO. The Marine Engineers have affiliated their national organization to the CIO. The Masters, Mates and Pilots are taking a national referendum soon on affiliation. The Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific has affiliated to the CIO. The Marine Cooks and Stewards Union of the Pacific Coast have voted overwhelmingly for affiliation. The Marine Firemen's Union, after taking an overwhelming vote for affiliation to the CIO, is now taking another referendum vote because their pro-AFL officials wouldn't recognize the first vote, and there is no doubt that the new vote will be just as overwhelming for the CIO. The Fishermen will probably affiliate to the CIO in the near future.

Only Sailors Union Left

This leaves only the Sailors Union of the Pacific, which is nominally independent, but actually is affiliated with the AFL through the Central Labor Council and the State Federation of Labor, where their delegates are seated and recognized as though they were an AFL union. The SUP is now taking a referendum vote whether to affiliate with the AFL, CIO, or remain "independent." Secretary Lundeberg and other Sailors' officials have taken an open stand for remaining "independent," although they have flirted with the idea of making a deal with Green for AFL recognition, if they dared to bring this openly to the membership.

L

BEHIND the SCREEN with DON BLACKWELL

HOLLYWOOD,

AT LONG LAST, the spotlight is on the corrupt dictatorship of George Browne & Company. The State Assembly Labor-Capital Committee which had been investigating the San Jacinto Tunnel labor dispute, suddenly focused its attention on the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees whose members were called out at Columbia studios last Monday.

Browne, head of the Alliance, who is rumored linked with Capone, trigger-man McGurn and other Chicago gangsters; Bioff, his stooge, who is said to be involved in dry cleaning and kosher meat graft rackets and smaller fry Harlan Holmden, Steve B. Newman and Sidney Criegar are the officials who rule the destinies of 12,000 IA studio workers. Questioned about the Columbia strike, Bioff was asked: "On whose vote was it called?"

"It was not voted by local membership, it was called by orders of the international president," Bioff said.

On further question the Assembly Committee brought out that there have been no local meeting of the IATSE since 1933, there are no local officers and that the union is run solely by the international officers. The Committee then promptly slapped a subpoena on the books, documents and records of the union to find out what is happening to the huge sums of money collected from its members.

BOIFFS and BROWNE'S income is said to run over \$250,000 yearly garnered from the studio workers by assessing as high as a \$50 initiation fee to join the IA, plus three months dues in advance and a 2 per cent assessment on monthly incomes after that. To build up the union and to keep the money rolling in, studio workers were told by their employers that they could not work unless they had IATSE cards. As a result of these black-jack methods which had the sanction and cooperation of the producers, the union, which had only 40 members after the 1936 strike, skyrocketed to the 12,000 present membership.

After Browne stepped into the picture, thugs ran all over the place. When unaffiliated AFL unions struck last spring under the auspices of the Federated Motion Picture Crafts, the IATSE which is also AFL, furnished strikebreakers and goons to beat up the strikers. Browne sent 50 strikebreakers to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and the latter company furnished 50 beds and a sound stage to harbor them. *

Dave Beck of the Teamsters and Browne & Company work in close harmony with the employers and company unionism is being shoved down the throat of the workers. Now it is said that Browne's gangsters were hired to kill Les Brunner, local gambler. From members of the IA itself, we have information that Browne & Company maintained a gambling outfit on the union premises, squeezing more money out of the workers and that Bioff had his home furnished with studio furniture and placed there on studio time.

IT WAS THIS company union gangsterism that caused two courageous IA boys, Chester Cohea and Irwin Hentschel, to go to Carey McWilliams, prominent labor attorney. The investigation resulted and Cohea and Hentschel promptly lost their jobs, as do all IA men who dare to make one word of protest. But now evidence is pouring into the Committee's office from all sides, showing that the IATSE and the producers are trying to put over a huge company industrial union to replace honest trade unionism. If all IA members get into the fight and are supported by the independent guilds and unions, Browne's plan to become dictator over all studio workers can be defeated.

SEEING RED with MIKE QUIN

IT'S ALL very well to say the rich are thieves—but prove it.

ONLY A MAN who works—*who functions usefully in society*—can understand life—enjoy it—live it. The human body is a factory of energy, and to expend that energy usefully, constructively, healthily, is the first and most necessary requirement of nature. The thrill of craftsmanship, pride in ability, satisfaction in accomplishment are the greatest experiences of life. They are things which no squandering of wealth can ever replace.

That is work in its finest sense. That is work viewed at the highest and finest expression of man. It is quite another thing to contemplate the tired, pale faces of women bending over sewing machines in sweatshops. Sixteen hours a day in the depths of poorly ventilated mines is also another matter. Agricultural workers sweated in the fields like cattle and returning home to squalid huts is something different.

Of all the crimes of the rich, this one is the worst. Exploitation for profit crushes, enslaves, distorts the finest and most beautiful thing in life—work. It turns into a nightmare of horror a thing that should be the prime experience.

In Germany, when union workers were imprisoned in concentration camps after the rise of Hitler, they determined that at whatever task they were put to they would do their work poorly. For a short time this form of protest was carried on. In the end, it could not endure. The desire to do good work and do it well was too strong. The craving for skill and craftsmanship could not be killed. Workers who despised the fascist regime with all that was in them could not resist when put to work making shoes, furniture and other things.

Karl Billinger in his book "Fatherland" describes this phenomena very well. Many workers whom the vilest kind of torture could not break, found the sight of tools and work bench irresistible after months of idleness.

"Yes he did," said the witness. "I am positive he did."

"If you did not see him bite it off, then how can you be positive he did it?" demanded the attorney.

"Because I saw him spit it out," said the witness.

AND SO IT IS with the rich. They ride in limousines that make the sparkling litters of Rajahs look like wheelbarrows. They drink the choicest booze and live in gaudier pagodas than Mandarins. Airplanes, yachts and thousand acre estates are "toys" for them.

If they didn't bite it off, they're sure spitting it out—and it must have come from somewhere.

It was sweated out of my grandfather's hide. That's where it came from. It was ground out of my grandmother's bones. It is the labor and patience of my mother and father they are squandering. The collective tragedy of millions of lives is the mash that was left over after their wine press of profits.

He became engaged in election campaigns and several worker-candidates were elected to city

BOOKS OF THE TIME How the 8-hour Day Was Born

Fifty Years Ago the Haymarket Martyrs Died for This Principle

Labor Agitator. The Story of Albert R. Parsons, by Alan Calmer, International Publishers, New York. Price 35 cents. 126 pp. 1937. Reviewed by Don Russell.

ON NOVEMBER 11, 1887, the Haymarket martyrs were executed. They were executed because they were active in the fight for the eight-hour day then being conducted by the working people of America. The Haymarket martyrs were Albert Parsons, August Spies, Adolph Fischer, George Engel and Louis Lingg.

It was what is commonly known as a "legal lynching." None of the executed men had anything to do with the bomb explosion at the meeting in Haymarket Square, Chicago. Undoubtedly the bomb was tossed by one hired provocateur. But it killed a number of policemen and the capitalist press launched a hysterical campaign intended to work up public sentiment against the men who were threatening, by their agitation, to win the eight hour day and, it is somewhat into the profits of the employer class.

Active Workers All

This book is primarily the life of Albert R. Parsons. But through its pages stride the other martyrs. They were all active workers, both on the economic and political field. They gained prominence as "agitators" for human rights—and they were nated for it.

Parsons was born in Montgomery, Alabama, on June 20, 1848, just after the close of the Mexican war. In 1848 too Karl Marx and Frederick Engels published the Communist manifesto that has become the battle cry of all oppressed people throughout the world. Parsons and his fellow workers have become a symbol of the struggles of oppressed people to gain a decent living.

The employers and their press could not charge Albert Parsons with being an "alien agitator." One of his ancestors was "Uncle Jonathan," a liberty-loving preacher. "Uncle Jonathan" denounced the English oppressors from the pulpit and in the very aisles of his church recruited a company that marched to Bunker Hill.

Old American Stock

Jonathan's son fought in the Revolutionary War and was one of the first members of the Patriot Party and the revolutionary Committee of Correspondence. If all IA members get into the fight and are supported by the independent guilds and unions, Browne's plan to become dictator over all studio workers can be defeated.

Albert's father, Samuel Parsons, led a temperance movement in the state of Alabama. He was a respected citizen and an outstanding figure in community life. Albert's mother too came of Revolutionary stock. One of her ancestors had served under George Washington.

Albert's parents died when he was a small youngster and he went to live with his brother's family on the Texan frontier. He fought with General Lee in the Civil War but later became a strong supporter of rights for the Negroes.

Making Of An Agitator

While on a speaking tour Parsons met an attractive young girl of Spanish Aztec descent. Three years later he married her and the couple soon thereafter went to Chicago where Albert got a job as a typesetter for the Chicago Times. He joined the Typographical Union, Local 16.

The first winter in Chicago was a hard one. The financial crash of '73 had thrown thousands out of work. Unemployed workers met spontaneously and paraded through the streets. Parsons followed their struggles and wondered what the whole thing was about. He listened to the "agitators" and attended union meetings. One spring evening he was given a chance to speak at a meeting he had just consented to speak at.

At first Parsons refused but later he consented. A little later someone handed him a leaflet announcing the meeting. His eyes caught the words: "Arm yourself and appear in full force!" Again he blew up. The line was deleted.

On the way to the meeting that night Parsons passed a friend's hardware store and left his revolver there with the proprietor, Frank Stauber. When he arrived at the meeting place no one was there to take charge. He asked for Parsons but Parsons hadn't shown up. So Parsons, long used to open air speaking, mounted a conveyance wagon and began to speak. It was half past eight. He spoke for a long time, waiting for Parsons and Fielden who were scheduled to talk.

Terror Begins

The day following May Day the bosses pulled a city-wide lockdown. Parsons had warned the people they would not win the eight-hour day without a struggle—and he was right.

The McCormick Harvester Workers attempted to operate the factory

workers over took the factory with scabs and there were rumors of impending boss terror.

Spies, tired and nearly sick, was asked to speak at a meeting of striking lumber-shoers. He didn't want to go but the committee prevailed upon him and he finally consented. Just

offices. But the depression was ending and soon the thousands who supported the Workingmen's Party were back at work—disinterested. There were inner-Party fights. There were splits and defections. So Parsons devoted his time to trade union elections, though he never failed to stress their value as a means of getting a message to the workers.

The struggle for an eight-hour day was gaining momentum. In Chicago the movement swept thousands of workers forward.

In March, 1886, a mass meeting was held in West Side Turner Hall. In April another was held and thousands waited in the streets, seeking entrance. Police smashed halls, rode rough-shod over workers at open-air meetings, shot people indiscriminately.

On May Day 1886, thousands upon thousands downed tools—struck for the eight-hour day.

Workers poured into the streets from every section of the city. The Chicago Tribune called them anarchistic mobs." But despite provocation the day passed peacefully.

Feeling Grows Tense

"What is the meaning of this?" he shouted. "What is the meaning of this? Who put in this word?"

Fischer shrugged his shoulders.

"Do you know there's a meeting at Haymarket Square tonight to protest against these killings? All the unions are arranging it and they want you to speak."

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Massacre Begins

On the eve of execution Parsons sang songs—the men retained their composure. They were marched to the gallows. As they placed the hood over Spies' head he shouted:

"You may strangle this voice but there will be a time when our silence will be more powerful than the voices you strangle today."

"This is the happiest moment of my life," said Fischer. "Hurrah for anarchy! — Hoch die Anarchie!" shouted Engels.

Parsons began to speak: "O men of America," he said, "let the voice of the people be heard. O . . ."

The trap was sprung—the voices were silenced—strangled.

Although this is primarily the story of Albert R. Parsons, it is also a story of American people struggling for a decent way of life. The court speeches of the condemned men are given almost in full. They alone are worth a thousand times the price of this little book.

THANKSGIVING JAMBOREE

LOS ANGELES—A Thanksgiving Eve Jamboree to top off its first organizational drive was announced last week by the United Office and Professional Workers of America, Local 9, to be held November 24, at the Diana Ballroom, 4067 Pico Boulevard.

The police! Look out for the police!"

On command of the cops the leaders started to leave. Suddenly there was a blinding flash, an explosion. The cops were then firing madly into the crowd. In a few moments it was all over. Some lay in the streets, others dragged themselves painfully to the sidewalk, groaning. One cop had been killed instantly, others wounded.

This was enough. Wild alarm stories appeared in the papers early the next morning. The anarchists were going to bomb the city. The Haymarket explosion was the signal for general uprising. Mobs stood at street corners shouting for the blood of the "anarchists."

Lynch Trial Planned

As usual the police began a reign of terror. Spies, Schwab and Fischer were arrested first. Fielden was picked up. Parsons' home was raided but he had disappeared. So they took his wife to jail instead.

In less time than it takes to tell it the Lynch trial was under way. Parsons, who had been in hiding, was persuaded to give himself up and he marched into court room one day. It was the same old story of ruling class frame-up. Many more American martyrs have travelled the same route since 1877. Tom Mooney, McNamara, Billings, Angelo Herndon, the Scottsboro Boys, the Criminal Syndicalism victims, the Modesto Frame-up, the King-Ramsay-Conner frameup.

Up in the bay area the American League Against War and Fascism is calling attention to the fact that many brands of canned fish are Japanese made. Housewives are beginning to cooperate with the League in asking their corner grocers to discontinue ordering these commodities, and put up posters saying "We carry no Japanese goods."

How to Check War

In the meanwhile, according to the November issue of "Economic Notes," a Labor Research Association publication, the U.S. War Department "is insisting that the Budget Director allow generous educational orders."

These practice orders are used to tune up plants so they can be put quickly on a war basis

on the official outbreak of hostilities."

So that's the way the wind is blowing. And my dock's bound who is a very alert waterfront dog and can smell a rat seven feet or seven thousand miles away, has begun to yap. By checking war far away from home, we are taking the first steps to check its spread to our own country, and the use of our husbands and sons for cannon fodder to pile up undreamed of profits for the big boys who make the wars.

Furthermore, we are not doing the Japanese women an injury but a favor by helping to bring about a defeat that will send their men home to them more easily without using meat."

There is not a club in the country before which the questions of peace and action against aggressor countries can not be brought. PTA's, YWCA's and religious organizations should be particularly interested. Further information on the various means of fighting war can be obtained from the American League Against War and Fascism, 715 Asbury, San Francisco.

Thought on Meatless Diets

AND BY the way, let's give

more than a passing sneer to

Photography Seen As Fine Social Weapon

By GEORGE HITCHCOCK

SAN FRANCISCO—Photography is certainly one of the most dramatic media by which to attack social problems. To begin with, although the artist may critically arrange his work to fit his ideas on both society and composition, his results always have an immediacy which painting sometimes lacks. We know the subjects portrayed actually exist. We can see for ourselves.

The show currently running (to November 27) at the Artists Co-op is fine example of the power of the camera in the field of social criticism as the West coast has as yet seen.

The show is over Washington State? Nothing to it. Stanford 23; the Cougars 0.

The Huskies over UCLA? Another bulls-eye. The Huskies squared off with a howitzer and a whole battery of grape-shot.

Santa Clara over St. Mary's, Right again. Broncos 7, Gaels 0.

Of course, there is the slight matter of that tie Oregon State slipped over on the Southern California Trojans, but Lefty hazards his shirt that this fiasco was caused by the stock market "rash" or sunspots.

OUTSIDE of a mild case of

fiasco when the picking machine ventured south of the Marion-Dixon line Lefty's choices swept the East. Only a mean-spirited "I told you so" would go into the whole glorious records; let the mere mention of Yale, Notre Dame, Pittsburgh, Minnesota and Ohio State suffice to put the doubting Thomases in their corner.

A Bowl of Prunes

Lefty doesn't have to put on the Buck Rogers thought-ray helmet to find California swarming over the Stanford Indians next week (in spite of Thorndike and his perambulating Mr. Pete Fay) so this lay-off from heavy thinking gives him time to utter a kindly curse or two on the biggest bally-hoo of an already over-stuffed season.

Every annum at about this time the literary gents of the sports table start pounding huge dents in their typewriter platters whooping up the praise of the "Bowls."

You don't know them? Well there's the Rose Bowl at Pasadena, the Sugar Bowl at New Orleans, the Cotton Bowl where in Alabama, the Cherry Bowl which is Life, etc. etc.

The treatment is excellent but a little too analytical and lacks some of the clear sense of social criticism which Mr. Bristol's studies have.

Hagel and Miethe

Who gets this m-e-y? The public? The universities?

Injurious Operations Forced Upon Epidemic Victims

L. A. County Officials Intimidated Nurses

Girls Sterilized By Inefficient Surgeons

(Continued from Page 1)
General Hospital facilities were taxed. At first patients were confined to the Contagious Disease division of the hospital, but soon the influx was so great that other sections of the hospital were thrown open to them.

There was also a shortage of trained people to care for the patients and a large number of new nurses was engaged. In hospital parlance, they were "green," never having contacted the disease and therefore being more susceptible to it.

Of the approximately 278 "green" nurses, more than 50 Politics Enters

At the time, a committee of experts had been appointed to study how best to stem the spread of the disease and reduce its effects. They devised a plan which was as effective as could be under the circumstances. This state of affairs continued until the spring of 1935 and then politics stepped in where the ravages of disease left off.

These nurses were industrial accident cases, having been stricken in the line of duty. Since the county had its own insurance system, it paid for their care at the rate of \$4 per day per nurse. There were 300 nurses affected, making a total outlay of \$1,200 a day.

If the General Hospital was receiving all that money, why couldn't some private institutions get some of the gravy? It was a fat egg and some doctors who had the right political connections hatched it with the aid of the Board of Supervisors.

Power of Illness or Health
The Board had final authority as to the disposition of these cases. The five supervisors had the authority to permit full use of the General Hospital to these nurses. They held power of illness or health over these unfortunate girls. Their decision, after a decade of interval, to remove these girls from the best treatment obtainable, and farm them out to private institutions was the first of a series of criminal acts.

The Supervisors chose the doctors to head the panels for their respective districts. Roger Jessup of the 5th district selected Dr. Orville J. Sloan, an old school chum and a surgeon who admittedly knew little about the treatment of infantile paralysis. This was the district where the General Hospital was located and had most of the cases.

Dr. Sloan controlled the transfer of the girls from the General Hospital. A number of them he transferred to his own floor in the Physicians' and Surgeons' Hospital.

The remainder were scattered among other sanatoriums, with the "right" connections, including the Hilcrest Rest Home where the superintendent was often drunk and conditions so shameful that the girls had to be sent to other places. 75 Girls Under Sloan

In all, there were 75 girls under the direct supervision of Dr. Sloan.

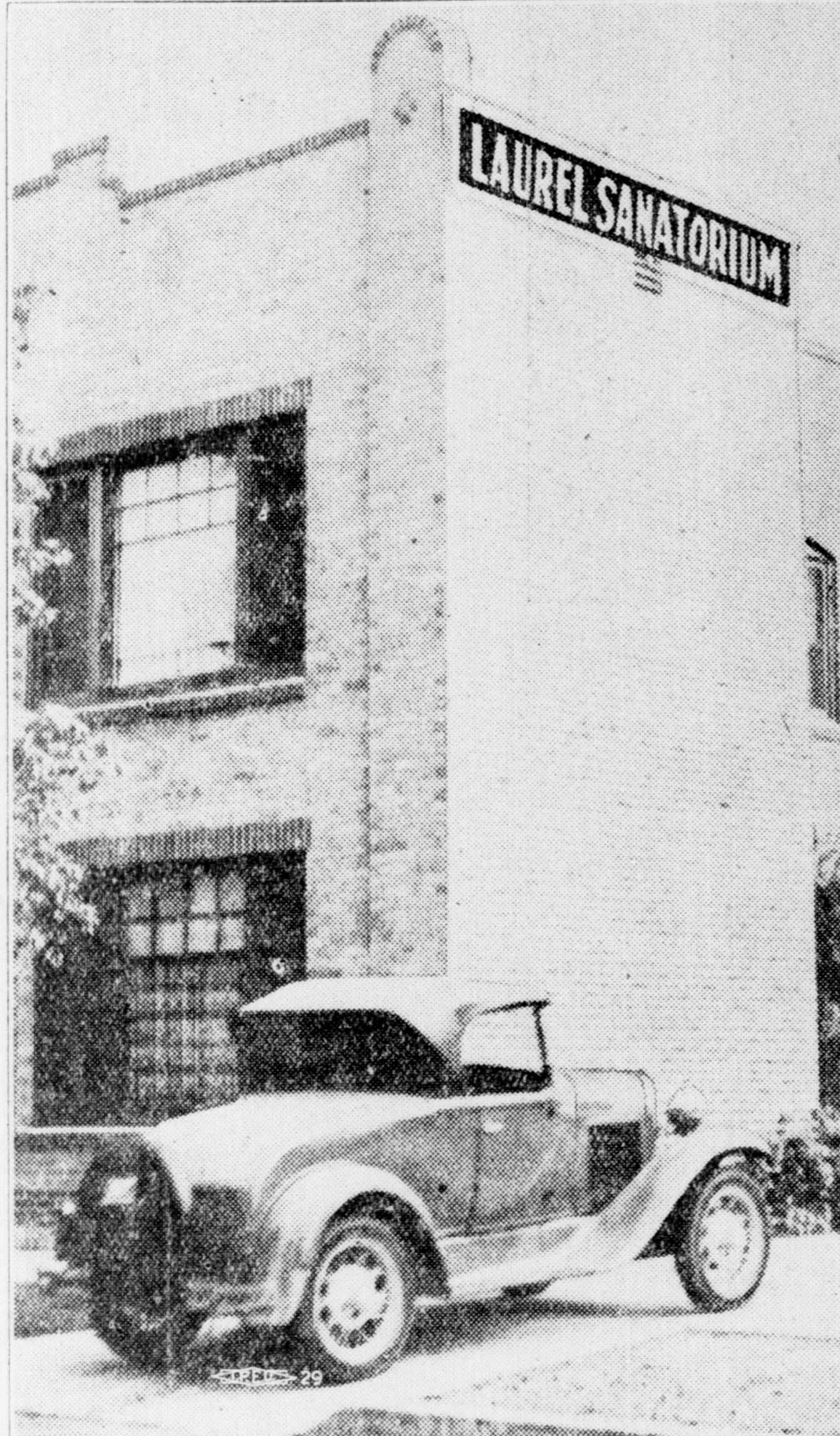
The doctors and politicians were able to make more money if the girls were hospitalized than if they were treated as ambulatory out-patients. Therefore, many of the girls who had previously been discharged from the General Hospital, were promptly rehospitalized by Dr. Sloan. Every new case meant \$4 per day and "accidentals." These incidents were medicine and OPERATIONS.

Patients convalescing from polyomelitis are extremely nervous and shaken, as is the case with most people recovering from long ailments. Taking advantage of their weakened condition, Dr. Sloan in conjunction with a Mr. Nier of the County Auditor's office composed a letter, later dubbed the Dog Eared Letter. This letter which Dr. Sloan used to pull out of his pocket and wave at the girls, was signed by the County Auditor and stated, in effect, that if they did not cooperate with Dr. Sloan, their compensation would cease and they would be free to leave the hospital.

One of the things meant by "cooperation" was submission to surgical operations and special treatment. Each operation cost \$20 to \$125 for the doctor who operated. The existence of disturbing symptoms in convalescence unduly alarmed the patients and made it easier for the doctor to advise operation.

Some figures compiled in the report of the California State Nurses' Association, District 5, from the County Auditor's record, gave an astounding picture of the situation. Of 106 cases investigated, 46 reported operations, ranging from submucous resection to removal of gall bladder and thyroid. Of these 46, nine had ovaries removed. Most of the girls were quite young, 67 being between the ages of 20 and 30. More than 60 per cent were single.

The Case of Nurse B
A typical case is that of Nurse



LAUREL HILL Sanitarium was one of the many private institutions to which the nurses, stricken with infantile paralysis, were shipped.

PAINTERS BACK COUNCIL HEADS

L. A. Trial Body Defeats Red-baiting Charges

LOS ANGELES—Cheers from delegates of 22 AFL Painters' Union locals greeted a victory for rank and file members here last Friday when a District Council trial committee unanimously voted down red-baiting charges against three officers. One other council officer was acquitted week before.

Those tried were James Meeks, council president; Hugh Campbell, secretary; and Sam Abel, business agent. Don Healy, business agent, had already been tried. Still to be tried on the red-baiting charges are Sam Abrams, Frank Kadish and Sam Schultz.

Brought by Nathan Roe, business agent and "stooge" for the reactionary General Executive Board, the charges were based on a clause in the union's constitution which denies membership to Communists.

Locals Hit Red-baiting

"Let us forget the red-baiting and get down to business and build an organization that the painters of Los Angeles can be proud of," President James Meeks, as he resumed his office. Resounding ovations followed the re-instatement of officers.

Later, she realized what she had done and when she complained, out came the Dog Eared Letter accompanied by a threat to remove her to Patton (an insane asylum near Los Angeles).

Several other girls who complained of menstrual disorders had their uterus or ovaries removed.

Multiply these cases by several hundred and you get a full picture of the wreckage of these young girls' lives. None of those responsible has been punished. There have been whispers about this scandal. It is time for the people of Los Angeles to shout:

LOS ANGELES

GALA FOLKS CELEBRATION

20 Years Reconstruction of Jewish Life in the USSR

Many Attractive Features Including

1. Magnificent Biro-Bidjan Pageant
2. Jewish Theatre Collective
3. Freiheit Gesangs Faréin

Hear MR. G. GOKMAN, Acting Consul General of USSR

TRINITY AUD., Grand Ave. at 9th St.
SUNDAY EVE, NOV. 28

Auspices ICOR. Reserved Seats 35 and 50c.

LOS ANGELES STOOL QUIT IN VICE CASE

City Hall in Attempt to Undermine Clinton as Grand Juror

(Continued from Page 1) ed to do a gum-shoe job on a Merriam Recall movement that was giving state and city officials a headache.

In a statement made upon his resignation, Hathaway indirectly accused Clinton of bombing his own home on October 29 in an effort to make front page headlines.

Hathaway Accused

This was sharply denied by Clinton, who, in turn, implied that the bombing might be the work of Hathaway.

"After Hathaway had been working for me about a week, he came to me and said, 'I'll tell you what I can do to get you publicity, I'll fix a bomb for you.' I told him that if he ever tried anything like that, it would be just too bad for him," the crusader said.

Observers view with suspicion the fact that Hathaway was conveniently away from the Clinton home at the time of the bombing, that he drove up shortly afterward with a story of having been kidnapped by three men in a black sedan. Although the "kidnappers" are alleged to have driven him around Hollywood for a half an hour, Hathaway was unable to give a description of any one of them.

"Do you think Hathaway's kidnapping was phoney?" Clinton was asked.

"That kidnapping story was intended for my ears alone," Clinton replied. "Hathaway was considerably chagrined when I said, 'Wait a minute, tell it to the detectives.' He saw that he was hooked."

Hathaway's usefulness as an under-cover man was completely destroyed when he appeared before the grand jury last week to sling mud at Clinton.

According to a statement by John William Joy, former Clinton vice investigator, Hathaway emerged from the grand jury chambers and in a conversational tone, said to Joy:

"The smart thing for you to do is to let Clinton down and forget all you know. You'll be taken care of."

"By whom? Who's been hit this?" Joy said he wanted to know.

"Never mind," Hathaway allegedly replied. "I'm not in Clinton's employ now. I'm on the other side of the fence."

Hathaway was involved in a malodorous scandal in June 1936 when he was accused by Mrs. Margaret Clark, militant woman member of the board of education, of having offered her \$10,000 toward Congressional campaign expenses for her vote to oust the board's business manager.

White-washed by a machine-controlled grand jury, Hathaway has consistently maintained that he has in his possession a letter from Mrs. Clark in which she completely retracts the charges she made against him.

Asked last week by a Western Worker correspondent if this were true, Mrs. Clark replied without hesitation:

"He's a liar. He's a liar. I never make statements that I retract."

Hathaway himself admitted before the 1936 grand jury that he sent me roses and took me to lunch, that he bought liquor for John F. Dalton (president of the school board), and paid \$60 a month to Edward W. Hauck (another board member) for articles that he wrote for Hathaway's magazine, Parade.

VITAL ISSUES FACING EMERGENCY CONGRESS

(Continued from Page 1)

voices of the big trusts, the administration is now in complete accord with "sound economics." They say by balancing the budget and eliminating the capital gains and undistributed profits taxes, the government will stimulate the rate of saving and investment, thus encouraging the owners and controllers of wealth to pour funds into the lagging pump of prosperity off to a new record.

It is plain that most of these statements of the Banker Barons are nothing more than wishful thinking. Nevertheless, they provide ground for general alarm among the people.

Real Danger Seen

Mr. Morgenthau's speech may not reflect a reversal of administration policy; but it does indicate that the New Deal is not opposed to making concessions to Wall Street. The economic theories behind the Tories' arguments may not contain the slightest validity in fact or logic; but because they are replete with demagogic and literally showered on the public through every means for the dissemination of information, there is real danger they may influence the thinking of large sections of the population, especially the middle classes. Though the New Deal still stands committed to a program of progressive measures for continuing recovery and further improving the conditions of the masses of the people, it is by no means certain that it can effect these reforms without reinforcement, without a renewal of the mandate which sent the present administration into power.

Reaction has mobilized all its forces to prevent the passage of progressive measures. As shown by government investigation of the recent break in share values on the stock exchange, the Robber Rulers of America deliberately fostered the crash in order to intensify the slump, to frighten Congress, and to force their program on the country. Sabotage Will Continue

Reaction's sabotage of the New Deal policies in this session will certainly continue. It may be expected to take one or all of several forms: powerful lobbying to force representatives into line, filibusters to compel innocuous compromises on certain measures, preoccupation with relatively unimportant bills in order to avoid action on vital issues, and the introduction of many measures openly hostile to the interests of the majority of the people.

Really Sound Economics

This is really sound economics which must rule at this time if the nation is not to suffer another collapse into crisis. The President goes even further, and in a statement of profound importance to the millions of oppressed and persecuted Negro people, declares: ". . . no one section of the country can permanently benefit itself at the rest of the country, by maintaining standards of wages and hours far inferior to other sections of the country." This is a warning that the wage and hour bill Congress should pass must be free of the wage differential which is so vigorously advocated by the feudal barons of the bourbon South.

(b) To broaden and immediately put into action the provisions of the Housing Law, which at this juncture would be a long-needed shot in the arm for the lagging building industry. The government must take the full responsibility for this. People who haven't money to buy food and clothing can hardly be expected to invest in homes; and until this basic demand can be bolstered up by increased mass income, it is idle to expect coupon clippers, who clip for other reasons than mere exercise, to invest funds in a dormant industry.

To fix minimum wages and maximum hours

Quoting the President again, "A few more dollars a week in wages, a better distribution of jobs with a shorter working day will almost overnight make millions of our lowest paid workers buyers of billions of dollars of industrial and farm products. . . That increased volume of sales ought to lessen other costs of production so much that even a considerable increase in labor costs can be absorbed without imposing higher prices on the consumer."

Legislation to increase mass purchasing power and to create for American industry, in the words of President Roosevelt, "on its very doorstep the biggest and most permanent market it has ever had."

This policy, discussed in Article III of this series, will also offer increased possibilities for further economic recovery.

Mandate Needs Reinforcement

These, in general, are the measures which the elected representatives of the people must pass in order to carry business over the present slump and avert catastrophe. Congressional action must be ensured by vigorous and sustained pressure from the people. Every farm, labor and middle class organization must send resolutions to their local representatives at Washington demanding that these measures be passed. And behind this form of pressure the people must draw their reserves of labor struggle and progressive political action.

In the interest of the people

In many respects this is the most important session of Congress ever to convene. If it needs the people's mandate, it will ensure a temporary period of prosperity and progress. To say more would be exaggeration, for there can be no permanent stability of a capitalist economy. But on the other hand, if Congress fails, the American people will shortly realize in a far more fearful form, all the uncertainty, hunger, and terror that came with the last depression.

To stabilize farm prices along the lines of cost of production

thus reducing the burden of debt on the workers and middle classes, and diverting a heavy flow of cash from the Master Usurers into the commodity markets.

To stabilize farm prices along the lines of cost of production

thereby eliminating the disproportions between farm and factory prices that increasingly impoverish America's farm population and narrow the market for manufactured articles.

To stabilize farm prices along the lines of cost of production

to pass these measures:

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CIO Union Plans Drive in
San Joaquin Celery Fields.

WORKERS' CORRESPONDENCE

San Fernando Valley Poor Live in Packing-Box Huts

C. of C. Braggs of Misdeeds

Worker Hears Sales Talk
How Chamber Knives
Working People

By a Worker Correspondent
LOS ANGELES—Quite accidentally, I happened to be on the receiving end of the telephone line leading into the office of our shop. After hearing the name of the caller, which was a Mr. Moore of the local Chamber of Commerce, soliciting for financial aid from the firm I work for, I decided to take it all in.

Mr. Moore, like any other high pressure salesman, went right ahead explaining tirelessly the need for every manufacturer and merchant to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He pointed out, not only is it of paramount importance, but it is the sacred duty of every employer to join hands in the fight against the ever-increasing number of bills introduced by the working class for social as well as job security.

Killed People's Bills

By way of inducement, he tried to prove that the C. of C. has already been very successful in not only blocking, but even with its limited collective power of today, the bosses are able to kill practically all our bills right in the committees before they even come on the floor for debate.

He seemed to be very proud to be a party to such insidious rotten activity of depriving the majority of the people of the necessities of life, or of sending our youth into barbed wire concentration camps, or old people begging on the streets, using such underhanded despotic methods.

He further went on to explain how important it is for personal reasons to be a C. of C. member. For instance, he stated that a Mr. Leon, local cloak manufacturer who was paying his workers the piece-meal way (\$5 now and the rest whenever you catch me), called his office for help because the workers, dissatisfied with the way of being paid, called for a showdown with the aid of their business agent from their respective CIO union.

Attacked Business Agent

After an hour of fruitless negotiating, the shop committee plus the business agent decided to shut off the power until such time as the rest of their pay would be forthcoming. Mr. Leon, in turn, armed himself with a pair of tailor shears and went for the CIO business agent.

According to Mr. Moore's own words, this was squashed in court through the myriad connections of the C. of C.

And again came the ending plea for the usual \$25 contribution.

Officials Sold Out "Rails" On Wages, Declares Firemen

By a Worker Correspondent
TRACY, San Joaquin County—I am in Tracy for a few weeks. A railroad fireman showed me the enclosed article. (From the Railroad Brotherhood's paper "Labor," in general, quotes the president of the Union Pacific Railroad lauding the national leadership of the rail unions.)

He stated "that here is the proof that we were sold out in the wage negotiation."

I suppose you get "Labor" weekly. However, this is such a sickening exhibition of class collaboration that I thought you might want to comment on it.

Profits for Carriers

Yesterday's press reports a rate increase of \$47,500,000 allowed by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Very obliging, in view of President Whitney's (of Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen) statement that the financiers of Wall Street collect \$5,000,000 annually from the nation's railroads.

On account of the reactionary leadership and reactionary editorial policy of "Labor" in general, I would like to see a good write-up in the "Western" covering the recent wage move.

Anti-CIO Injunction Case Against Dockers Continued

LOS ANGELES—Hearing on an AFL petition for an injunction against stevedores' affiliation with the CIO Int'l. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, was continued last Tuesday until next Monday, by Superior Judge Ruben L. Schmidt. Twelve members of the old AFL Int'l. Longshoremen's Assn. are attempting to restrain affiliation of the ILA on grounds that the ILA, as incorporated has no authority to change affiliation.

Volunteers to Aid the Daily

By a Housewife
SANTA CRUZ—I am so sorry that I could not contribute financially to our paper that I have come to love, (we read it from a neighbor). My husband's pension is \$28 and I make far less. If you could use my volunteer work for the coming Daily Western Worker, I would feel honored. I could call labor news from German or French labor papers and translate.

Fake WPA Union on G. G. Job

Bosses 'Organize' Stooges On Bridge Approach in S. F. Presidio

By a WPA Worker

SAN FRANCISCO—The American Asn. of WPA Employees is "organizing" at the Golden Gate Bridge approach project in the Presidio. Who is pointing out, not only is it of paramount importance, but it is the sacred duty of every employer to join hands in the fight against the ever-increasing number of bills introduced by the working class for social as well as job security.

For these misguided individuals are jobs just a little softer than fall to the lot of the average WPA workers, the doubtful privilege of receiving the confidence and favors of the bosses and occasional dinners in ritzy hotels, where along with the food they receive an elementary course in red-baiting from laborers and a few of the more reactionary AFL officials.

It is significant that on this project, as on others, the entire office force are conspicuous for pie-plate phoney buttons. It is significant that one office worker confided he was threatened with dismissal if he didn't join.

"Union" Isn't "Taking"

This "union" isn't "taking," except with a very few very confused workers. It only serves to antagonize the men, and with only a little work on the part of the Workers Alliance members on the job, a number could be induced to join up with a legitimate working man's organization. A few have—more must!

CIO Potash Union Wins in Carlsbad

By a Worker Correspondent

CARLSBAD, N. M.—The Potash Co. of America signed an agreement for a substantial increase in wages and paid vacations, with the Int'l. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, a CIO affiliate.

The charter was granted to the Carlsbad Potash Workers No. 415 last September 4. This is the second agreement signed by the union. The other is with the Otis Gin Oil Mill, located at Loving, New Mexico. This group of workers received an increase in wages of 90 cents per day.

Win Gains

Under the agreement with the Potash Co. of America, the workers got a minimum increase of 60 cents a day and a maximum of \$1.02. The company also agreed to give its employees 90 cents a day for transportation, four days paid vacation for one year service, seven days, for two years service and 10 days for three or more.

URGES 100 PCT. JOBLESS POLL

By an Agricultural Worker

Green is a union man, I know; And Czar Beck's left hand Goon, Have organized a phoney show To make the workers dance their tune.

All up and down the coast they roam, These dervishes of union fame; While Vandeleur stirs up a foam And helps the company union game.

There's a better land I know Where these pals will always meet, Nursing scabs from top to toe, And scratching each other in defeat.

Down with all their mopey shines! And hoist the banner of rank and file, So the CIO may hold the lines, And dump sell-out artists in a pile.

—S. P., Stockton.

Plan CIO Drive in Lodi Area

Field Union to Organize Celery Fields; Trains Union Leadership

By an Agricultural Worker
LODI, San Joaquin County—We are laying plans here in Lodi for a drive to organize the celery workers; they are under the jurisdiction of our local of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers (CIO).

I am going to Stockton for a special meeting of the San Joaquin Industrial Council to lay plans for a concerted action to organize the Delta Islands.

Train Union Leaders

Things are a good deal different here lately. We have established a school in Stockton to teach the workers how to lead a union with parliamentary procedure. We are training leadership. We are building unions now, not looking for strikes or lockouts.

We have a permanent hall with a charter for our union already installed. You should hear the reactionaries! We are a thorn in the sides of Garrison, Marshal and Sanguineti, the leadership of vigilantes in Lodi.

Waged Up

We have five gangs, all 100 per cent union, wearing their buttons on the job. No one gets a job in those gangs unless they belong to the union.

Wages have gone up from 45 cents to 55 cents an hour. They raised our wages out of fear of an established union and not because they felt sorry for us.

We are signing union members daily, even beyond my expectations.

Raised Funds for "Western"

We also made collections for the Greek Zachariadis battalion fighting in Spain—\$60—and for the Abraham Lincoln battalion, \$65. Comrades here also raised \$50 for the Western Worker and 25 new subscriptions for the Empros.

N.M. Union Hits Japan

Carlbad Potash Workers Condemn Aggression

By a Worker Correspondent

ROSWELL, New Mexico—Enclosed clipping of the first act of the new union formed in the Potash Co. of America plant at Carlsbad. This is the CIO Carlbad Potash Workers Union, Local No. 415, which adopted a resolution calling for a commercial boycott to curb the militaristic program of Japan in China and asking the U. S. State Department to invoke the Kellogg Treaty and the Nine-Power Pact against Japanese aggression.

In the S. P. Potash Co. is a CIO affiliated union, just formed, and they have succeeded in getting a contract from the company, giving them very material gains after long years of slavery unorganized.

Both these unions now have a progressive direction. We also now have a progressive CIO union in the great Hobbs oil fields.

Among the 2000 or more cotton picker population of the Pecos Valley, the workers' councils have forced the wages of these workers up at least \$10.00 this year. Otherwise they would not have been able to exist.

The agreement also provides time and a half for overtime in excess of eight hours a day or 48 hours a week, double time for Christmas, July 4th and Labor Day. Seniority to govern promotions to higher classifications, same rule to govern in event of temporary lay-offs.

Aways Mouthful

The vocabulary of the bucks is limited, and when things look phoney to them, they are apt to yell all at once "Aw Nuts." To the professor such language is abhorrent, but to the vets it was always a mouthful.

The boys all liked the Soviet anniversary edition of the "Western," and I do hope the Daily will be a success.

WANTS 'DAILY' TO BE TABLOID

By a Worker Correspondent

HOLLYWOOD—I notice that newspapers which have the best appeal to the worker and the man on the street, are those in tabloid form. I therefore offer my recommendation for that style paper for the Daily Western Worker. I sincerely believe that the new workers' paper will go farther in tabloid form.

The Goon Trinity'

By an Agricultural Worker

Green is a union man, I know; And Czar Beck's left hand Goon, Have organized a phoney show To make the workers dance their tune.

All up and down the coast they roam, These dervishes of union fame; While Vandeleur stirs up a foam And helps the company union game.

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Down with all their mopey shines! And hoist the banner of rank and file, So the CIO may hold the lines, And dump sell-out artists in a pile.

—S. P., Stockton.

TWU Signs Another Closed Shop Agreement



NEARING 100 per cent closed shop organization of New York City's transport workers, officials of the Transport Workers' Union (CIO) met at city hall with Mayor F. H. LaGuardia and representatives of the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit system to initial the agreement which averted a threatened strike of 12,000 workers. Left to right, seated: Pres. W. S. Menden of the EMT, LaGuardia and Pres. Michael J. Quill of the TWU. Left to right, standing: W. Harry Sefton, BMT attorney; Douglas MacMahon, union vice-president, and Harry Sacher, TWU attorney.

Vets Want Real Class On Issues

Teacher in Present Class Leaves Vital Questions Suspended in Ozone

By a Veteran

LOS ANGELES—The Board of Education of Santa Monica sponsors the open discussion class at the National Military Home in West Los Angeles twice a week.

The little old man who is interested in current issues such as the CIO, the Far East, Soviet Russia and the AFL has not much of a class. Those who started to go are now playing hooky.

Hokey Players

In strolling about the grounds the professor meets up now and then with a hokey player whom he greets with "you can't take it, eh?" Possibly the prof thinks the class is suffering from paralysis above the neck and is waiting for rigor mortis to set in.

However, such is not the case. Some members of the class are of the opinion that the professor trying to lead mankind out of misery, is just sliding around in the slippery. It seems that most of us have seen the old hat trick that property and capital are the same.

Members Debate

The professor could have a good class if it were conducted in the good old way of "knock down and drag out" debate, let the chips fall where they may. When a yokel gets up and states that the "Rooshians are all bull-headed Communists" or any of whom America's foremost historian, Dr. Charles A. Beard, declared at the 56th annual convention of the National Education Assn., held at Atlantic City, N. J., on February 24, 1935:

Indictment of Hearst

There is not a cesspool of vice and crime which Hearst has not raked and exploited for money-making purposes. No person with intellectual honesty or moral integrity will touch him with a tenfoot pole for any purpose or to gain any end. Unless those who represent American scholarship, science and the right of free peoples to discuss public questions freely, stand together against his insidious influence, he will assassinate them by every method known to yellow journalism—only cowards can be intimidated by Hearst.

We do not want Fascist Hearst and his kind to pollute our shores.

URGES 100 PCT. JOBLESS POLL

By a WPA Worker

SAN DIEGO—Every WPA worker, relief client, unemployed and partly unemployed person in San Diego must be told of the necessity of filling out the census card which he will receive November 16.

Every reader of this should tell his friends, acquaintances and neighbors of the urgency of answering this questionnaire.

The Workers Alliance will issue many thousands of handbills on the subject, which may be obtained at 625 E St. The Alliance will do all in its power to get regular radio publicity for the census, as well as newspaper publicity.

Lundquist is on spot in Candy Union

Education Is Need Of New Unionists

By a WPA Worker

SAN DIEGO—"Capitalism deprives the working class of any genuine opportunity for truthful education on class struggle questions," declared Al Lane, Communist Party Industrial Section organizer, in an interview.

"Education is a basic trade union need. The CIO movement, involving millions of newly organized workers, needs to enrol raw material into a militant, class-conscious army, and education is a vital answer to this problem."

Lundquist outlined plans for a workers' school, to be launched by the C. P. here early in March.

Film Stars Mansions In Sharp Contrast To Workers Shacks

"Wish Edward Everett Horton Would Let Me Live in Chicken House," Says Worker With Family

By a Worker Correspondent

GIRARD, Los Angeles County—"Beautiful San Fernando Valley. Hundreds of movie stars' homes. Favored by picture people."

The Valley is stealing the thunder that used to belong to Hollywood and Beverly Hills. "Thirty thousand dollars for a stable, fifteen thousand for the dog kennel!" a poor farmer remarked, incredulously.

1000 Acres for Horses

"I wish that Edward Everett Horton would

A SPECIAL PAGE OF TRADE UNION NEWS, DEVELOPMENTS AND FEATURES

O'Sullivan and Christopherson named in Pedro plot against National Maritime Union, threatening Coast-wise lockout—William Z. Foster's pamphlet exposes Railway Labor Act menace to Maritime Workers—Racketeer rule in Hollywood union exposed—Other labor news on regular news pages.

Uncover Racketeer Dictatorship in IA Film Studio Union

No Meetings, No Officers, Only High Assessments—Knifing of Assembly Committee Probe Is Threatened

By WALKER EVANS

HOLLYWOOD—How would you like to belong to a union that hasn't held a meeting nor elected officers in two years?

—Whose international president throws it into receivership, seizes its records, negotiates contracts on its behalf, calls its members out on phoney strikes? —Whose funds are turned over to this same president to be disbursed as he sees fit without an accounting?

—Whose members are assessed 2 per cent of their earnings without ever having voted it?

—Whose initiation fees have been boosted from \$10 to \$100 in some instances?

Conditions in IATSE

These conditions exist today in the Int'l. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees—you guessed it, an AFL affiliate—claiming 12,000 members among Hollywood cameramen, sound technicians, utility men and grips.

Blowing the lid off this sewer, the State Assembly committee on labor and capital has launched a sweeping probe into the racketeering activities of the IATSE officials, scurrying for cover many of the RATS who have grown fat and sleek on the earnings of film factory workers.

Under cover of secrecy, the committee rounded up a few of these beady-eyed animals with the long, scabby tails.

First witness was William Bihoff, IA business representative, who was caught in the act of pulling a phoney walk-out at Columbia studios.

No Meetings

Dressed in a flashy green suit and red shirt Bihoff sullenly answered questions by Assemblyman Paul Richie, who, ironically enough was once employed on a rodent control project in San Diego.

RICHIE: Where is the union meeting place?

BIOFF: We don't meet.

RICHIE: What attempt has been made to elect officers?

BIOFF: None. Until our international sees fit and until the local can run itself, Harlan Holmden (international vice-president) and myself have been assigned to run the affairs of the union.

RICHIE: Who authorized the strike called at Columbia this afternoon?

BIOFF: I did, under instructions from the international president.

RICHIE: Did the membership have any voice in voting the strike?

BIOFF: No. There was no vote taken.

This is only a curtain-raiser to disclosures to follow if the Assembly committee does its duty. Unfortunately, the interim committee appointed by Speaker William Mosley Jones are rapidly assuming the character of "shake-down" committees. This is not intended to throw doubt on integrity of Assembliesmen Jack B. Tenney, John Gee Clark, Fred Reaves and Richie—committee members whose voting records merit support of all progressives. It is to warn that these fine legislators may unwittingly become the dupes of Speaker Jones, who has a strangle-hold on all interim committees, and who can cut on their funds on a minute's notice.

Law Partners

Observers were not reassured last week by Jones' appointment of Cal Clayton S. Adams and William C. Silliman—both of whom operate out of his office—as investigators to examine the IA books.

With the law partner Col. William H. Nebblet already special prosecutor for the committee investigating the Pacific Mutual, Jones has given employment to everyone even remotely associated with the law firm of McAdoo, Nebblet & Warner and its peculiar brand of politics.

Already, disquieting rumors are being bruited about that Mesrs. Adams & Silliman have approached certain film executives intimating the IA investigation can be quashed for a price.

Will Demand Continuance

Bona fide studio unions—such as the Actors', Writers' and Directors' Guilds—are prepared to bombard the committee with requests that the investigation continue, should any attempt be made to kill it.

Meanwhile, if the committee forges ahead without interference from Jones, it will uncover some interesting facts:

Both Bihoff and Browne stem from Chicago, where at one time they reputedly associated with such notorious mugs as "Tommy" Maloy, later the victim of one of those mysterious underworld characters of the such common knowledge recently, when gangster H. L. Howe, to meet wage and hour demands.

Expose Rail Act



WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

The anti-labor functions of the Railway Labor Act are thoroughly exposed in Foster's latest pamphlet, "Railroad Workers Forward," on sale at all workers' bookstores at 10c.

Point of Order

A Trade Union Column

By JOHN BROMAN

SAN FRANCISCO labor wants unity. This isn't news to any trade unionist, particularly in San Francisco, but it IS news when the AFL Central Labor Council unanimously votes to let the AFL-CIO unity conference know "our sentiments for unity."

Dictator Browne
The constitution provides that whenever George Browne, as international president, deems an emergency (never defined) exists, he has the right to suspend a local's affairs in 24 hours' notice, take over its records and negotiate contracts on its behalf.

Following adoption of the constitution, Browne formally suspended the Hollywood locals, signed a phoney closed shop agreement with the studios in January, 1936. In a fortnight the membership jumped from 121 to 12,000.

A 2 per cent assessment which had been effective since June, 1935, was lifted in March, 1936, when the executive board met and passed a resolution that the assessment was no longer necessary, that the union was in a marvelous financial condition.

Then, without warning in January, 1937, IA officials cracked down again with the assessment, although the union was in an even better financial fix.

Fees Jacked Up

Initiation fees have been upped in certain classifications from \$10 to \$100, which, together with quarterly dues of \$9.75, yields an income of nearly \$425,000 a year.

All funds are turned over to Browne, who has carte blanche authority to disburse them as he sees fit, with no accounting required.

Through some happy circumstance movie producers have upon a formula for solving their labor problems. For years they have used the simple expedient of seeing that two union factions are kept alive. When one makes trouble, the industry allies with the other.

Producers Use IA

In the 1937 strike of the Federation of Motion Picture Crafts, the producers used the IATSE not only as a strikebreaker, but as a decoy to lure the other craft unions into a dark corner where the producers could shove a gun in their ribs.

The IA has not yet outlived its usefulness to the producers, still serves as a lever against the other crafts and to keep the CIO off Hollywood.

"Times" Flip-Flop

A humorous sidelight to the IA investigation is the Los Angeles Times' treatment of it. Learning the Assembly committee was launching its probe, the Times played the story big on the front page, hoping to smear the front page, hoping to smear the IA.

All the world knows how the CIO has worked for unity in organizing nearly 3,000,000 previously unorganized workers. Real labor unity demands industrial unionism for mass production industry. These are facts. Let the AFL unions notify their officials that they stand for such genuine labor unity, based on these facts.

Goon's Can't Stop Martinez Meeting

MARTINEZ, Contra Costa County—William Tyrell, reactionary Oakland AFL official and a squad of goons, failed to prevent the State, County & Municipal Employees Union Local 49, from holding a successful organizing meeting here last Tuesday.

About 9:30 p.m. Tyrell and his henchmen walked into the meeting, which marked the beginning of a drive to enroll government employees, and tried to break it up by heckling.

In spite of the provocation, Local 49 President Nation was kept busy from 10 o'clock to 12:30 signing up approximately 50 of the 100 workers who attended.

P. S. The Times blamed it all on Harry Bridges!

Hardware Stores Struck In S.F. Mission District

SAN FRANCISCO—Department Store Employees Local 1100 struck two hardware stores in the Mission district last Wednesday, as an answer to discrimination against six union clerks and refusal of the owner, H. L. Howe, to meet wage and hour demands.

Railway Labor Act Called Bosses' Tool; Marine Men Warned

William Z. Foster Exposes Compulsory Arbitration Under Railroad Statute In His Latest Pamphlet

The U. S. Maritime Commission proposes to set up a Maritime Mediation Board along the lines of the Railway Labor Act, in legislation being submitted to the current special session of Congress.

Capitalist newspapers throughout the country (including the San Francisco Chronicle) are taking up the cry for this legislation, lauding the Railway Labor Act to the skies.

WHAT IS THE RAILWAY LABOR ACT?
Why are the maritime unions (National Maritime Union and the Pacific Coast unions) fighting this proposal for a Maritime Labor Act, based on this statute?

And why are American Federation of Labor top officials (William Green, Joseph P. Ryan, Paul Scharenberg & Co.) intimating to congressmen and senators that they favor this proposed law?

What the Railway Labor Act has meant to the railroad workers in speed-up, mass layoffs and inadequate wage scales, is thoroughly exposed by William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, who spent 10 active years as a member of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, in his latest pamphlet, "Railroad Workers Forward!"

In order to throw light on this latest shipowners' maneuver against the maritime workers, sections of this pamphlet dealing with the Railway Labor Act are reprinted, as follows:

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

DURING the World War the railroad workers built up a very powerful organization of some 1,800,000 members. It was militant and progressive. Under the big mass upsurge of that period, the railroad unions were developing a greater and greater solidarity through local, system, divisional and national federations, and, with their Plumb Plan and intensive political activities they constituted the progressive wing of the labor movement.

workers and made arbitration semi-compulsory.

Hog-Tied Unions

The railroad union leaders hailed the Watson-Parker law as a great victory, but the Communists denounced it correctly as highly injurious to railroad unionism and they were condemned and expelled from the unions for so doing.

In a pamphlet I wrote at the time, I said this law "virtually fastens compulsory arbitration upon the necks of railroad workers, it outlaws strikes. . . . The Watson-Parker law is a blow at the vital of railroad unionism."

And so it has turned out in fact. Between the effects of the semi-compulsory arbitration of the Railway Labor Act and the non-militant attitude of the union leaders, the 21 railroad unions have sunk deeply into a no-strike program. They have also developed other reactionary tendencies. From being the progressive head of the labor movement, as they were in 1920, they have become its tail-end.

Owners Snore

The workers rebelled against it and the great national strikes of 1920 and of 400,000 shopmen in 1922 resulted. The union leaders ruthlessly broke the first of these strikes and failed to support the "legal" shopmen's strike solidly, several of the unions remaining at work while the rest were striking.

Their aim was especially to take away the strike weapon of the unions; for the companies dreading the economic power of the strongly organized workers in the key railroad industry. The first long step toward eliminating the strike among railroad workers was the passage of the Transportation Act (with the union leaders' support) in 1920. This law crippled the railroad unions by placing them under the hostile Railway Labor Board, which set about actively to worsen conditions for the workers.

The workers rebelled against it and the great national strikes of 1920 and of 400,000 shopmen in 1922 resulted. The union leaders ruthlessly broke the first of these strikes and failed to support the "legal" shopmen's strike solidly, several of the unions remaining at work while the rest were striking.

The railroad leaders made the effects of this disaster worse by adopting, in 1923, the notorious B. & O. plan of union-management cooperation. The theory of this scheme was that strikes were unnecessary; that all the workers had to do was to speed up production and their steady work and high wages would automatically result.

The general consequence was to worsen working conditions, to further destroy the militancy of the unions, to turn them into speed-up agencies of the bosses, and thus to contribute to the general over-production that caused the great industrial crash of October, 1929.

Then Railway Labor Act

Together with the disastrous B. & O. plan no-strike policy, the union leaders developed labor banking. This was another cure-all substitute for militant union policies. As every railroad worker knows, it finally wound up in one of the worst financial scandals in the history of the United States, with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers membership losing some \$17,000,000.

Not satisfied with the undermining effect of all these anti-strike tendencies, the railroad companies proceeded (again with the open support of the railroad union leadership) to more completely hogtie the railroad workers by the passage in 1926 of the Railway Labor Act, then popularly known as the Watson-Parker Law.

This act, with its tangle of mediation, arbitration and delay (which six years later was made still worse by amendments) further seriously weakened the strike right of the railroad

BOSSES GAIN, UNIONS LOSE UNDER RAILWAY LABOR ACT

The results of the semi-compulsory arbitration features of the Railway Labor Act, both for the workers and for the employers, are shown in concrete figures, as follows:

Workers Got

PROFITS: Increase of nearly 46 per cent in revenue ton-miles hauled without any increase in the number of railroad workers employed, from 1920 to 1929; from 1932 to 1936, average output per railroad employee increased 45 per cent.

LAYOFFS: Because of the speed-up, 1,200,000 railroad workers are now doing practically as much work, measured in revenue ton-miles, as 2,000,000 did 17 years ago—the remaining 800,000 have been driven out of the industry. In the last two months the railroads announced still more lay offs.

WAGES: Same wage scales as in 1921; even with recent 5% raise, railroaders get from 11c to 30c an hour less than similarly skilled workers in steel, auto, rubber and electric industries.

Employers Got

PROFITS: Between years 1920 and 1930 alone, railroad owners received about five billion dollars in dividends, plus some seven and one-half billion in fixed charges, or about enough to rebuild the whole railroad system; profits in 1937 will run well over \$300,000,000 more than last year, plus several hundred million dollars in bond interest.

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Pedro Plot On NMU Is Uncovered

Marchen Maersk Picketing A Lockout Threat, Urged By Anti-CIO Officials

SAN PEDRO—As facts came to light on the picket line around the Danish steamer Marchen Maersk of last week, three local union officials were linked in a conspiracy to discredit the National Maritime Union and threatening to cause a coast-wise lockout of 40,000 to 50,000 Pacific Coast maritime workers.

The officials were:

B. J. O'Sullivan, Marine Firemen's agent here, who is connected with the discredited and ousted J. E. Ferguson, ex-secretary of the MFWO.

Harry Christoperson, Sailors' Union of the Pacific Agent, who is anti-CIO.

C. R. Hunt, Maritime Federation District Council No. 4 secretary, who is one of the original "dirty dozen" stevedores who filed anti-CIO injunction proceedings against the Longshoremen.

The picket line thrown about the Marchen Maersk by the Scandinavian Seamen's Club was called off a week ago Monday by vote of a stop-work mass meeting of the Federation, after the club's secretary stated the picket line was ordered on the advice of O'Sullivan and Christoperson.

Lockout Threatened
Immediately thereafter, the Sailors' and Firemen's officials, who attempted to brand the ship's crew as NMU members, although they had official word to the contrary, attempted to over-ride the decision to call off the picket line, despite the fact that the Waterfront Employers Assn. threatened a lockout unless the ship was unloaded.

An official ILWU 1-13 bulletin, signed by Temporary President E. L. Bowen and Temporary Secretary Tom Brown, declared:

"Since when did joint meetings of the Sailors and Firemen's unions, called for the most part by the officials, over-ride the decisions reached in a Maritime Federation mass meeting? Do these kind of tactics make for unity and solidarity in the Federation?"

Rank and File Acted
However, at the Sailors meeting, a motion by one of Christoperson's followers to non-concur in the decisions of the Federation mass meeting, was defeated by the rank and file. The Sailors rank and file also put through a motion to lift the boycott against tugboats with CIO Inland Boatmen's Union